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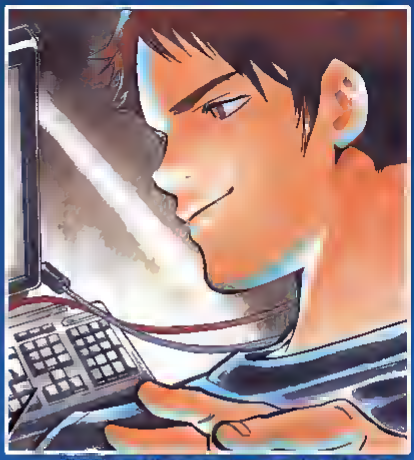

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KUROSAGI CHAPTER 66

STORY BY: TAKESHI NATSUHARA

ART BY: KUROMARU

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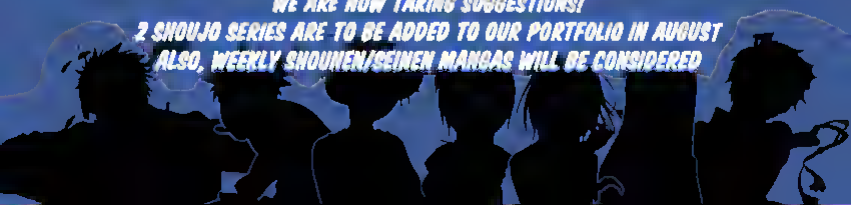
AO NO EXORCIST, KAICHOU WA MAID-SAMA, VAMPIRE KNIGHT, DENPA KYOUSHI, KIMI NI TODOKE, FASTER THAN A KISS, GIANT KILLING, KUROSAGI, SKIP BEAT!, DENGEKI DAISY, JOUJUU SENJIN!! MUSHIBUGYO, HAMMER SESSION!, SAIUNKOKU MONOGATARI, 7-NIN NO SHAKESPEARE, SAINT YOUNG MEN, WILD LIFE, NICOICHI, SHIN PETSHOP OF HORRORS, INITIAL D, BLACK GOD, WAIWAII HEY! SAY JUMP.

GOT A MANGA YOU WANT US TO SCANLATE?
WE ARE NOW TAKING SUGGESTIONS!
2 SHOUJO SERIES ARE TO BE ADDED TO OUR PORTFOLIO IN AUGUST
ALSO, WEEKLY SHOUNEN/SEINEN MANGAS WILL BE CONSIDERED



HUH?
SAY WHAT?

Beep
DAMN IT!

HEY, HOW DO YOU EXPECT ME TO SPEND 3 HOURS—
I'LL BE THERE IN 3 HOURS.
SORRY, MAN. MY WORK SHIFT JUST GOT CHANGED.

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO ANSWER A SURVEY?

EXCUSE ME, DO YOU HAVE SOME TIME?

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KUROSAGI
LITHOGRAPH
¥-1,000,000

CHAPTER 65 ART GALLERY FRAUD (FIRST PART)

A SURVEY?
I'M FREE, ANYWAY
SURE I DON'T MIND
WE'RE GETTING YOUNG PEOPLE TO ANSWER IT, SO—
ACTUALLY, WE'RE HAVING AN EXHIBITION AT A GALLERY NEARBY... CARE TO TAKE A LOOK?
I GUESS? BUT I DON'T KNOW TOO MUCH ABOUT IT—
UMM, ARE YOU INTERESTED IN ART?
ART?

.....
IF YOU HAVE TIME...
USUALLY, WE CHARGE FOR ENTRY, BUT WE'RE HOLDING A PROMOTION TODAY. SO YOU CAN GET IN FOR FREE.
ANOTHER 2 HOURS AND 24 MINUTES...
GALLERY OLYMPIA
IT'S QUITE FULL
YES, TODAY WE HAVE A LOT OF PAINTINGS AIMED AT THE YOUTH.
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HMM... PRETTY.
TAKEN A LIKING TO PETER ROSS?
I'M THE MANAGER, AIZAWA. WELCOME.
AH, HELLO.
PETER ROSS IS AN UP AND COMING ARTIST WHO USES SOFT COLORS.
IT'S WONDERFUL, ISN'T IT?
OF ALL ROSS'S WORKS, THIS PAINTING HAS THE RICHEST COLORS.
YES. IT'S REALLY PRETTY.

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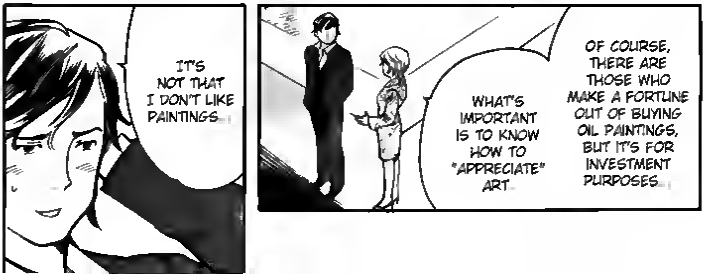
IT'D BE NICE TO HAVE ONE HANGING IN YOUR ROOM
YES BUT THAT'S MORE LIKE A PERK OF THE RICH
—TRUE, THAT'S THE GENERAL IMAGE
BUT IT'S ONLY LIMITED TO OIL PAINTINGS
THESE LITHOGRAPHS WE DEAL WITH HAVE THE SAME VALUE AS THE ACTUAL PAINTINGS, BUT SINCE ROUGHLY 200 PIECES CAN BE MADE FROM ONE ORIGINAL, THEY'RE MUCH MORE AFFORDABLE THAN OIL PAINTINGS.

HOWEVER, THEY CAN ONLY PRINT A FIXED AMOUNT APPROVED BY THE ARTIST, SO ALL LITHOGRAPHS COME WITH THE ARTIST'S SIGNATURE AND A SERIAL NUMBER
.....
THE SIGNATURE AND SERIAL NUMBER GIVE THE LITHOGRAPH THE VALUE OF AN ACTUAL PAINTING


OF COURSE, THERE ARE THOSE WHO MAKE A FORTUNE OUT OF BUYING OIL PAINTINGS, BUT IT'S FOR INVESTMENT PURPOSES.
WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS TO KNOW HOW TO "APPRECIATE" ART.
IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T LIKE PAINTINGS.

AS A MATTER OF FACT, YOU WERE CAPTIVATED BY PETER ROSS' PAINTING JUST NOW, WEREN'T YOU?
WHAT'S IMPORTANT ISN'T KNOWLEDGE.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW MANY ARTISTS' NAMES.
BUT TRUTHFULLY, I'M NOT TOO FAMILIAR WITH ART—
PETER ROSS IS THE MOST PROMISING ARTIST OF OUR TIME.
THAT SHOWS THAT YOU HAVE AN EYE FOR GOOD ART.
ALTHOUGH YOU'VE NEVER HEARD THE ARTIST'S NAME, YOU FELT THAT IT WAS TRULY A "WORK OF ART"—
THIS MAY ANGER A FEW PEOPLE, BUT—
WE DON'T ASK OUR STAFF TO INVITE JUST ANYONE TO OUR GALLERY.
HE IS, EH...
HMM—

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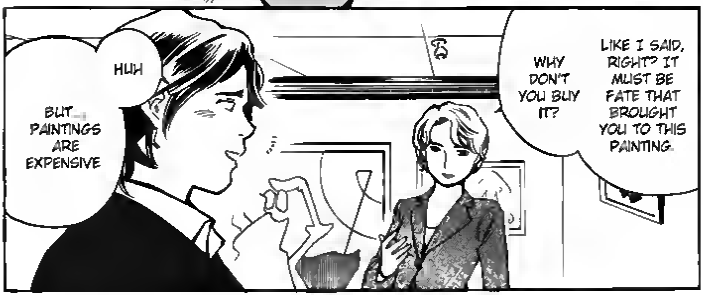
WE INSTRUCT THEM NOT TO INVITE ANYONE WITHOUT A SENSE FOR ART... OF COURSE, I'M SURE SOMEONE WITH AN EYE FOR ART, LIKE YOU, WOULD UNDERSTAND—
OH, NO. PLEASE...



IS IT, REALLY? THINK ABOUT IT... A PAINTING, ONCE ON DISPLAY IN YOUR ROOM, IS SOMETHING YOU'D LOOK AT EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR.
IT'S SOMETHING THAT WILL ALWAYS SOOTHE YOUR SOUL.
NOW IMAGINE THAT LASTING FOR 10 YEARS
ONLY 80 000 FOR 1 YEAR.
NOT EVEN 7,000 YEN A MONTH.
THAT'S 230 YEN A DAY IT'S CHEAPER THAN A BOX OF CIGARETTES.
JUST THAT LITTLE TO ENRICH YOUR SOUL...
NOTHING ELSE CAN DO THAT
.....
YES... THAT'S TRUE.
IF YOU PUT IT THAT WAY, IT'S A GOOD PRICE

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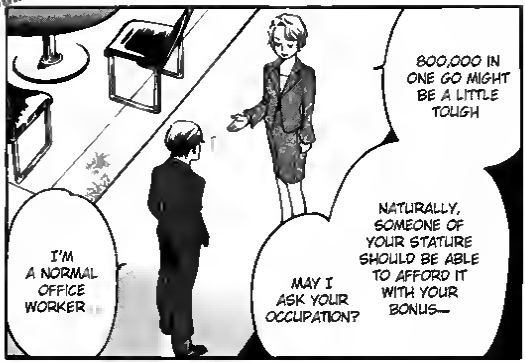
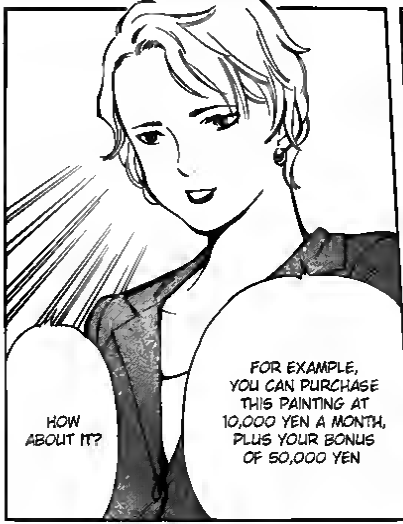
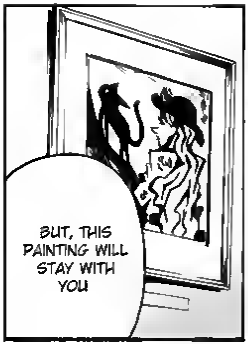
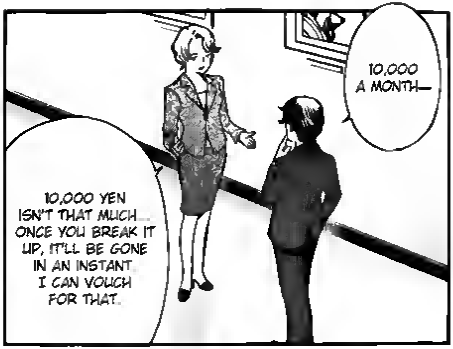
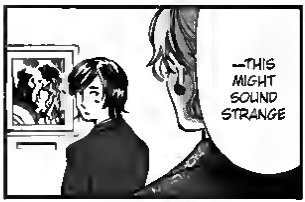

I'M A NORMAL OFFICE WORKER
MAY I ASK YOUR OCCUPATION?
NATURALLY, SOMEONE OF YOUR STATURE SHOULD BE ABLE TO AFFORD IT WITH YOUR BONUS—
800,000 IN ONE GO MIGHT BE A LITTLE TOUGH
—EVEN SO



LOANS HAVE LOW INTEREST THESE DAYS. WHY NOT GO FOR IT?
THEN I SUGGEST YOU PAY IN INSTALLMENTS. WE ADVISE ALL OUR CUSTOMERS TO BUY ON LOAN

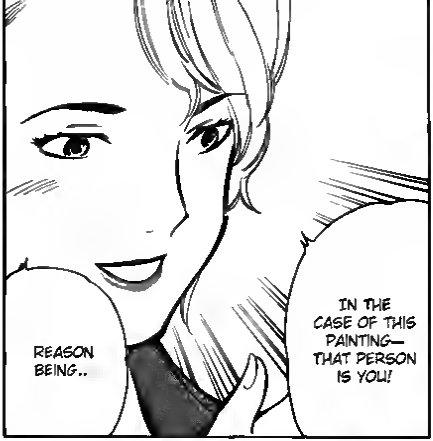

BUT, THIS PAINTING WILL STAY WITH YOU

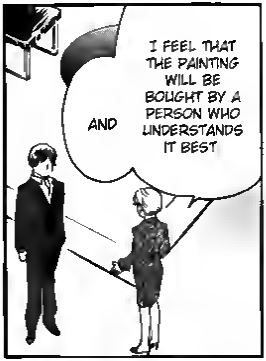

10,000 A MONTH—
10,000 YEN ISN'T THAT MUCH... ONCE YOU BREAK IT UP, IT'LL BE GONE IN AN INSTANT. I CAN VOUCH FOR THAT.

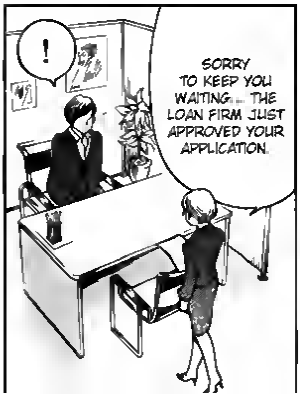

—THIS MIGHT SOUND STRANGE

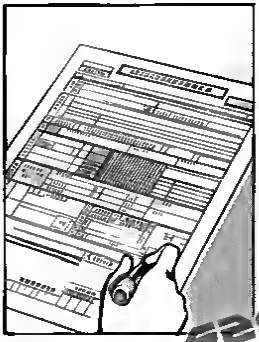
BUT I FEEL THAT EVERY PAINTING I BRING INTO MY GALLERY
WILL EVENTUALLY GET BOUGHT BY A PERSON DECIDED BY FATE

I GUESS SO...
.....?









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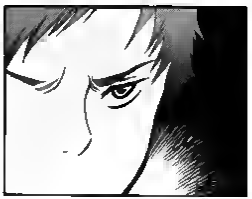
SO THEN ..!
YES! THANK YOU FOR YOUR PURCHASE!
.....
IT FEELS... STRANGE.
NOW THAT IT'S MINE I FEEL STRANGELY ATTACHED TO IT
THAT'S NATURAL
ONE PAINTING WITH THAT SERIAL NUMBER EXISTS IN THE WORLD...
AND YOU'RE THE SOLE OWNER OF IT, SIR—

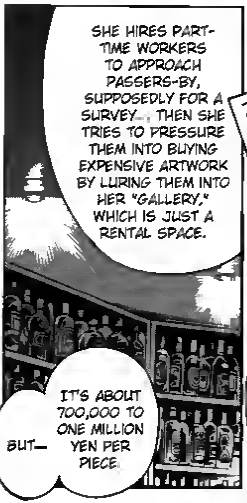
THEY'RE PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE THAT— "A PERSON WHO APPRECIATES ART IS CULTURED AND REFINED."
HAVE AN INCLINATION TO OVERPRAISE WORKS OF ART, AND LOOK UP TO THOSE WITH AN "EYE FOR ART."
PEOPLE IGNORANT OF ART
SNACK 柱
SIGN: KATSURA
THIS SHIROSAGI EXPLOITS THE VANITY OF THOSE MEN AND WOMEN TO SWINDLE THEM.
AND THERE ARE ALSO THOSE, WHO WANT OTHERS TO SEE THEM AS ONE OF THESE PERSONS—
……

THERE WASN'T ANY INFO ALL THIS WHILE, SO I THOUGHT YOU'D POUNCE ON IT

WHAT'S WITH THE GRUMPY FACE?
.....

THIS WHOLE TIME!
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT...
I WAS BORED.




SHE HIRES PART-TIME WORKERS TO APPROACH PASSERS-BY, SUPPOSEDLY FOR A SURVEY... THEN SHE TRIES TO PRESSURE THEM INTO BUYING EXPENSIVE ARTWORK BY LURING THEM INTO HER "GALLERY," WHICH IS JUST A RENTAL SPACE.
BUT— IT'S ABOUT 700,000 TO ONE MILLION YEN PER PIECE.

AIZAWA KYOUKO, 32.
A SHIROSAGI PROFITING FROM ART GALLERY FRAUD.

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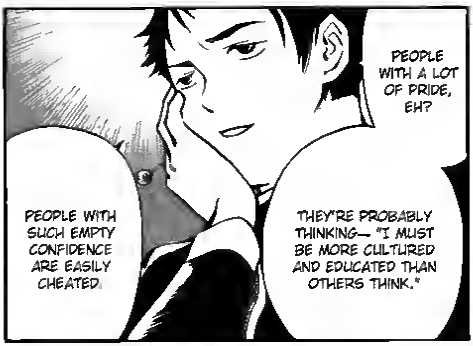
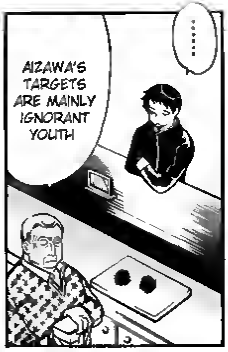
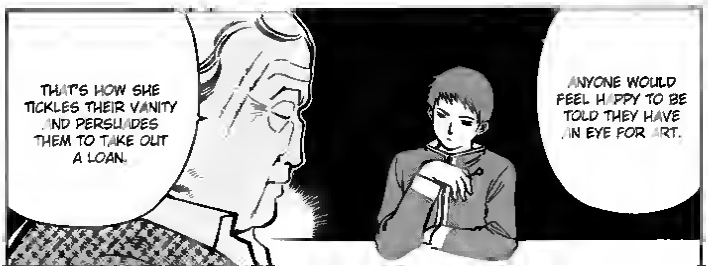
THE LITHOGRAPHS SHE SELLS ARE ACTUALLY COPIES.
WITHOUT ANY VALUE.
THE VICTIMS, WHO'VE BEEN FOOLED INTO BELIEVING THEY UNDERSTAND ART, FAIL TO NOTICE THIS.


PEOPLE WITH A LOT OF PRIDE, EH?
PEOPLE WITH SUCH EMPTY CONFIDENCE ARE EASILY CHEATED.
THEY'RE PROBABLY THINKING— "I MUST BE MORE CULTURED AND EDUCATED THAN OTHERS THINK."




THAT'S HOW SHE TICKLES THEIR VANITY AND PERSUADES THEM TO TAKE OUT A LOAN.
ANYONE WOULD FEEL HAPPY TO BE TOLD THEY HAVE AN EYE FOR ART.

I SEE. A LOAN
WELL, I GUESS SO.
FROM A SHIROSAGI'S POINT OF VIEW, A LOAN IS THE BEST SYSTEM AROUND... IT'S A FOOLPROOF METHOD OF MAKING MONEY, REGARDLESS OF HOW MUCH MONEY THE VICTIM HAS
Squeek
AIZAWA'S BASE IS AN "OUT OF PLACE" TOWN.
SHE NEVER WORKS AT A PLACE LIKE GINZA, WHERE THERE ARE A LOT OF LEGITIMATE GALLERIES.
I HAVE NO IDEA WHY SOMEONE WOULD PAY SO MUCH FOR A WALL DECORATION.
WELL, IF IT WERE SOMETHING I NEEDED, I'D PAY EVEN THOUGH IT HAD NO SOCIAL VALUE.
FOR EXAMPLE...

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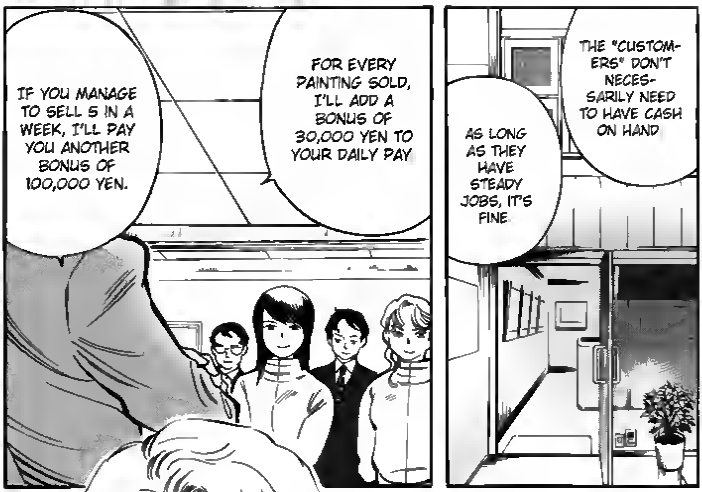
IF YOU MANAGE TO SELL 5 IN A WEEK, I'LL PAY YOU ANOTHER BONUS OF 100,000 YEN.
FOR EVERY PAINTING SOLD, I'LL ADD A BONUS OF 30,000 YEN TO YOUR DAILY PAY
AS LONG AS THEY HAVE STEADY JOBS, IT'S FINE
THE "CUSTOMERS" DON'T NECESSARILY NEED TO HAVE CASH ON HAND

ARE WE CLEAR?
THIS IS A COMPETITION.
Aizawa Kyouko
Manager, Olympia Gallery

A SURVEY?
YES.
EXCUSE ME! WOULD YOU PLEASE ANSWER THIS SURVEY?

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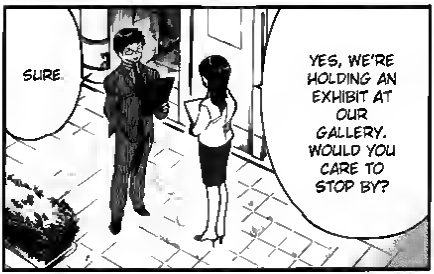
CHAPTER 66 ART GALLERY FRAUD (MIDDLE PART)



I'M AIZAWA, THE MANAGER.
PLEASE ENJOY YOURSELF.
THIS IS A PETER ROSS LITHO-GRAPH
HE'S AN UP AND COMING ARTIST.
WE REALLY TRIED TO LOWER THE PRICE
YOU SEEM TO KNOW A LOT ABOUT ART, SIR
AH, NOT REALLY.
IT'S JUST THAT
WHAT A SURPRISE.
A ROSS LITHO-GRAPH AT THIS PRICE ..!

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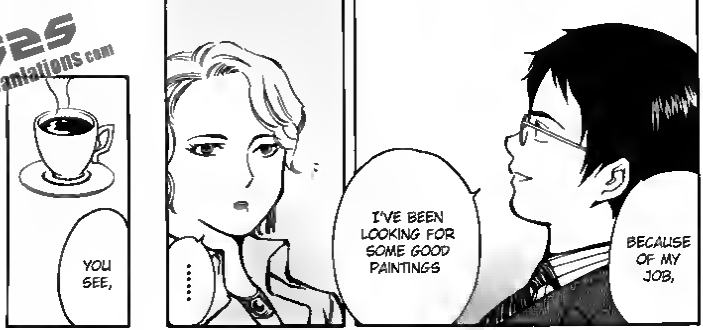

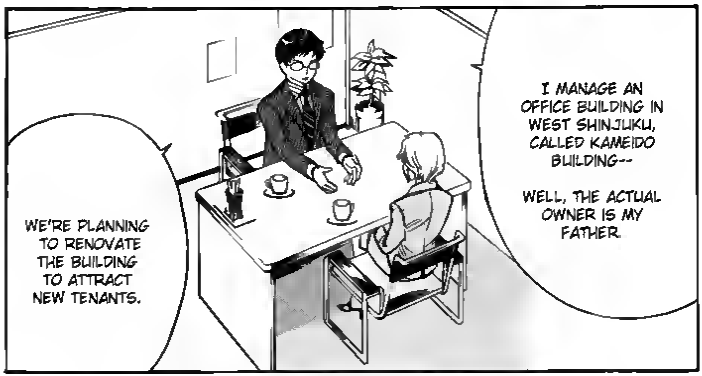
I MANAGE AN OFFICE BUILDING IN WEST SHINJUKU, CALLED KAMEIDO BUILDING--
WELL, THE ACTUAL OWNER IS MY FATHER.
WE'RE PLANNING TO RENOVATE THE BUILDING TO ATTRACT NEW TENANTS.

WELL, IT'S TRUE THAT MORE OWNERS ARE GOING THAT EXTRA MILE
YES. I WAS ALSO THINKING OF ADDING SOME ANTIQUE LAMPS, BUT I'M NOT TOO FAMILIAR WITH THEM
WHICH IS WHY.....
I WAS WONDERING IF YOU COULD
SELL ME ENOUGH LITHOGRAPHS TO DECORATE MY BUILDING. HOW ABOUT IT?
.....!!
MY BUDGET IS 800,000 YEN APIECE. THERE ARE 50 ROOMS IN ALL, SO I'D LIKE YOU TO PREPARE 50 OF THE ROSS LITHOGRAPHS
WITH PLEASURE!
LEAVE IT TO ME!!

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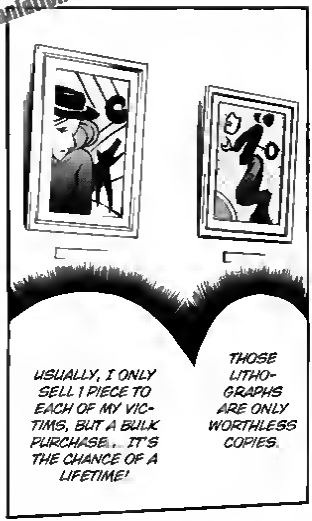
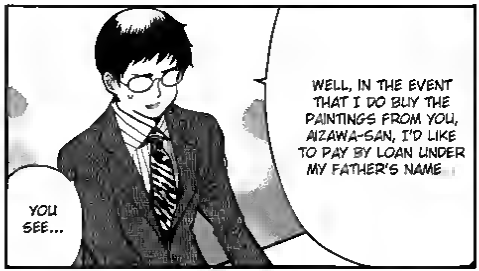
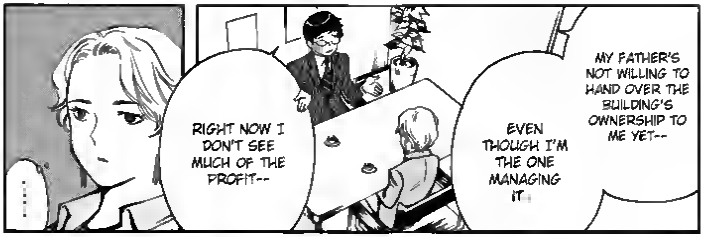
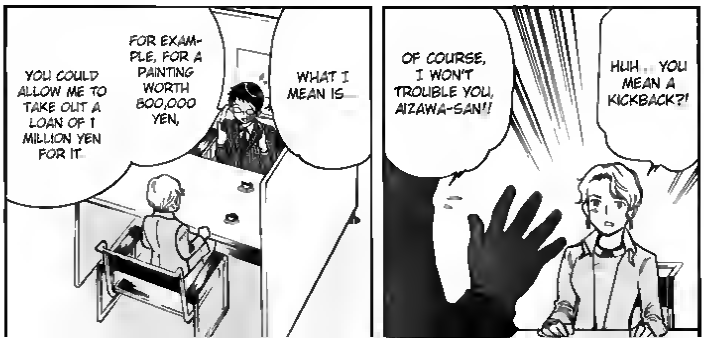

USUALLY, I ONLY SELL 1 PIECE TO EACH OF MY VICTIMS, BUT A BULK PURCHASE... IT'S THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME!
THOSE LITHOGRAPHS ARE ONLY WORTHLESS COPIES.

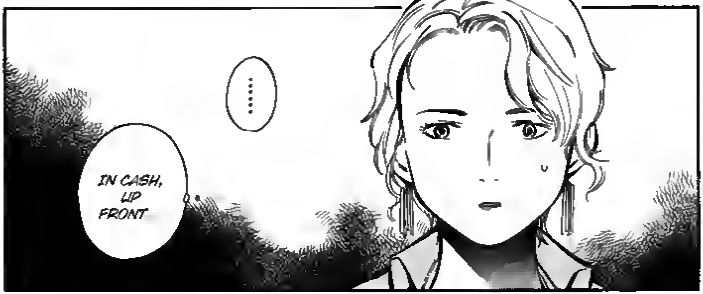



MY FATHER'S NOT WILLING TO HAND OVER THE BUILDING'S OWNERSHIP TO ME YET--
EVEN THOUGH I'M THE ONE MANAGING IT
RIGHT NOW I DON'T SEE MUCH OF THE PROFIT--
.....

IF IT'S OK WITH YOU, I WAS WONDERING IF YOU COULD ALTER THE LOAN CONTRACT
SO THAT SOME OF THAT MONEY GETS AROUND TO ME.


HUH... YOU MEAN A KICKBACK?!
OF COURSE, I WON'T TROUBLE YOU, AIZAWA-SAN!!
WHAT I MEAN IS...
FOR EXAMPLE, FOR A PAINTING WORTH 800,000 YEN,
YOU COULD ALLOW ME TO TAKE OUT A LOAN OF 1 MILLION YEN FOR IT

Sell for 50 million (50 pieces at 1 million each)
Building Owner (Father)
5 + 万
Aizawa
Excess, 10 million above the actual price of 40 million
THAT WAY, YOU'LL BE PAID FOR
50 PIECES AT 1 MILLION A PIECE-- 50 MILLION YEN IN TOTAL, AIZAWA-SAN
OF COURSE, THE ACTUAL PRICE IS... 50 PIECES AT 800,000-- 40 MILLION YEN IN TOTAL I'D LIKE YOU TO PASS THAT EXCESS 10 MILLION TO ME IN CASH



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IT'S A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT.
I'LL NEED TO PAY 10 MILLION IN CASH FIRST...
THOUGH I'LL END UP WITH 40 MILLION YEN..
OUR ADVANTAGE IS THAT THOSE LITHOGRAPHS ARE PRACTICALLY WORTHLESS.
THIS IS AN IRRESISTIBLE DEAL..
COMPARED TO OUR USUAL JOB OF SELLING 1 PAINTING TO EACH PASSERBY WE ENSNARE...
--BUT
NOT TO MENTION, HE CALLED THOSE COPIES "SUPERB"!
WHAT AN IDIOT.
WE JUST WOULDN'T GET SOME MONEY WE WOULD HAVE GOTTEN. WE HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE...!!
IF OUR VICTIM WERE TO RUN OFF BEFORE REPAYING THE LOAN, IT WOULDN'T HURT US A BIT...

WHICH MEANS THE DECIDING FACTOR IS... WHETHER IT'S OK TO AGREE TO PAY THE KICKBACK AMOUNT IN ADVANCE OR NOT.
HE SAID HIS FATHER WOULD PAY, BUT WAS HE TELLING THE TRUTH ..?
WHAT IS IT, MA'AM?
WOULD YOU PLEASE CHECK THE RECORDS OF KAMEIDO BUILDING RIGHT AWAY?
KIMURA-KUN
YES, SUNAGA HERE.
HELLO, MY NAME IS AIZAWA, FROM GALLERY OLYMPIA.
PARDON THE INTRUSION, BUT...
rrrring
Beep
Beep

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ARE YOU SUNAGA EIICHIROU-SAMA?
YES...
THAT'S MY NAME
YOU SEE, YOUR SON STOPPED BY OUR GALLERY TODAY...
AND TOLD US HE WAS INTERESTED IN BUYING SOME OF OUR PAINTINGS FOR RENOVATING YOUR BUILDING.
HE SAID THAT THE PAYMENT WOULD BE BY A LOAN IN HIS FATHER'S NAME: YOURS, SUNAGA EIICHIROU-SAMA.
ARE YOU AWARE OF THIS MATTER, SIR?
YES, I'VE HEARD ABOUT IT FROM MY SON.
HE SAID HE WAS BRINGING IN LITHO-GRAPHS...
...SUNAGA-SAMA, DO YOU MIND TELLING ME THE ADDRESS OF YOUR BUILDING?
I'D LIKE TO CHOOSE PAINTINGS SUITABLE FOR YOUR LOCATION--

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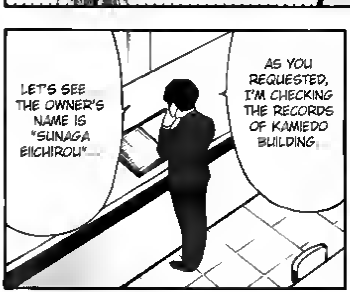
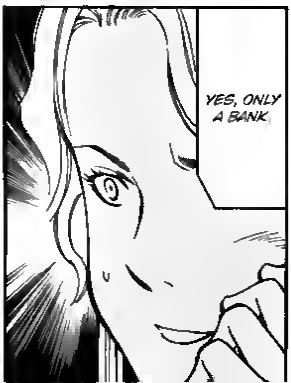
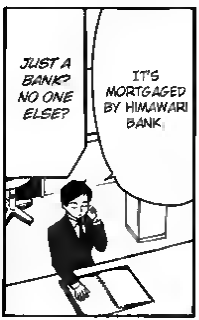
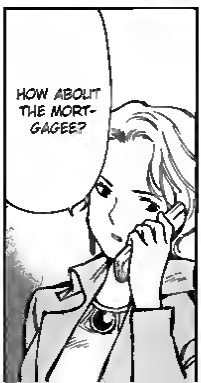
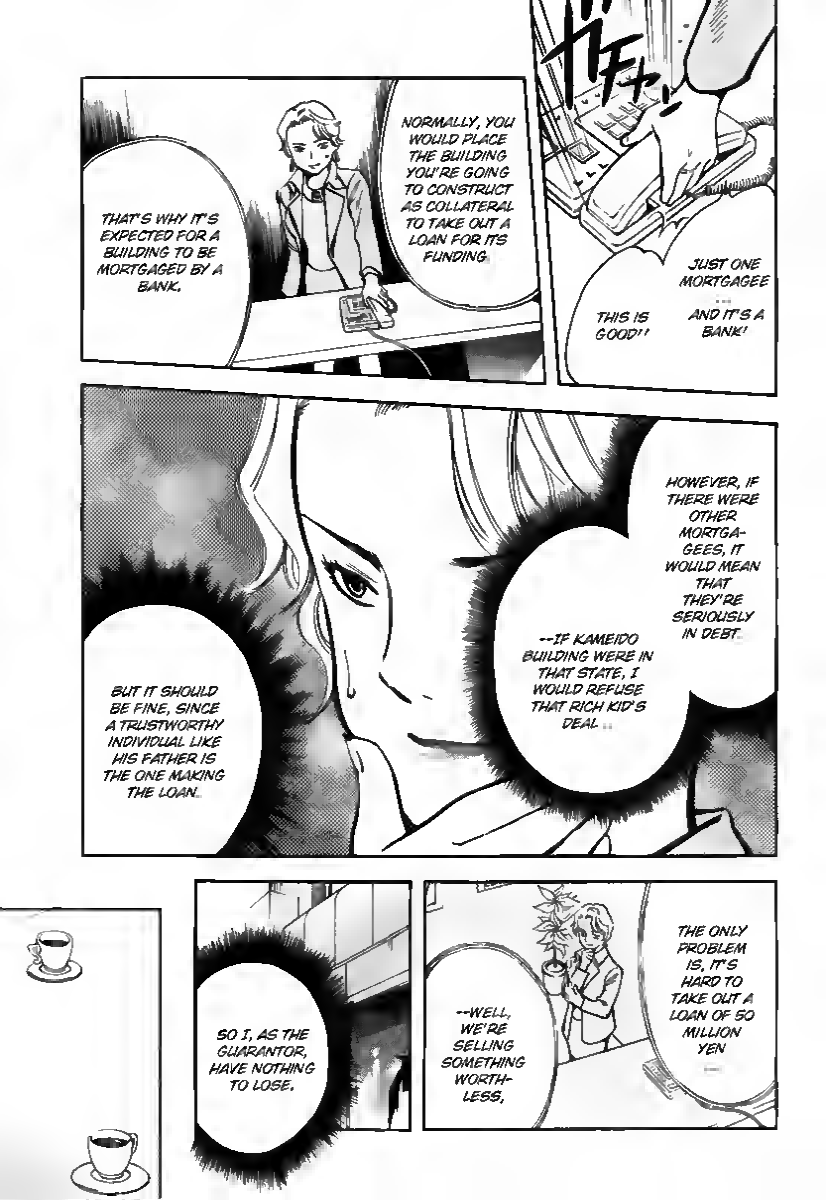
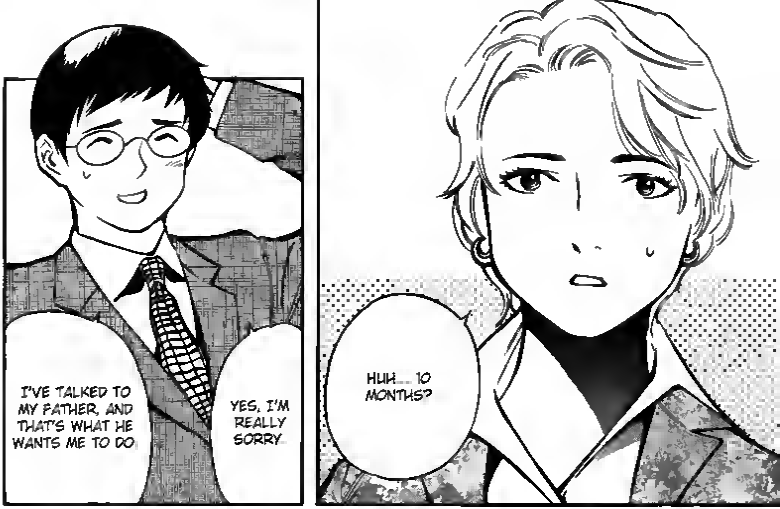


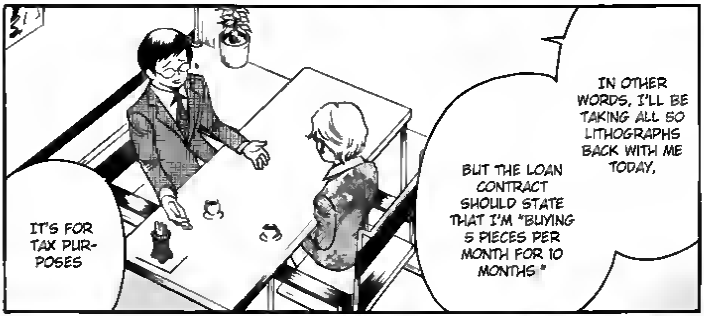


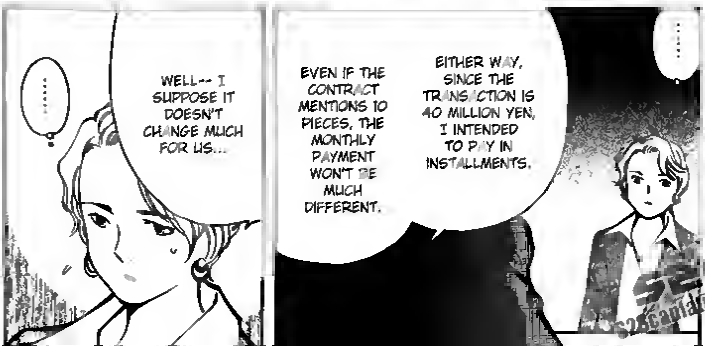


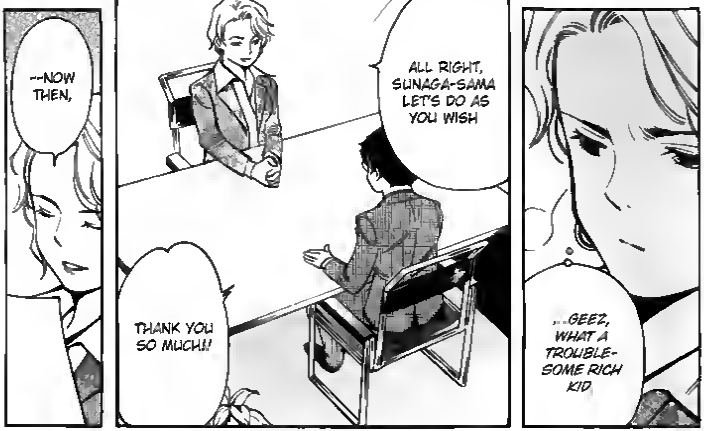


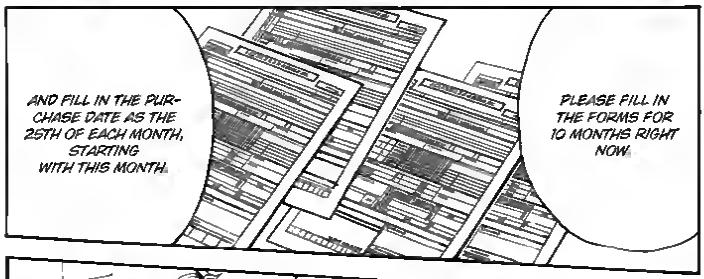

NORMALLY, YOU WOULD PLACE THE BUILDING YOU'RE GOING TO CONSTRUCT AS COLLATERAL TO TAKE OUT A LOAN FOR ITS FUNDING.
THAT'S WHY IT'S EXPECTED FOR A BUILDING TO BE MORTGAGED BY A BANK.
JUST ONE MORTGAGEE ... AND IT'S A BANK!
THIS IS GOOD!!
HOWEVER, IF THERE WERE OTHER MORTGAGEES, IT WOULD MEAN THAT THEY'RE SERIOUSLY IN DEBT.
--IF KAMEIDO BUILDING WERE IN THAT STATE, I WOULD REFUSE THAT RICH KID'S DEAL.
BUT IT SHOULD BE FINE, SINCE A TRUSTWORTHY INDIVIDUAL LIKE HIS FATHER IS THE ONE MAKING THE LOAN.
THE ONLY PROBLEM IS, IT'S HARD TO TAKE OUT A LOAN OF 50 MILLION YEN.
--WELL, WE'RE SELLING SOMETHING WORTHLESS,
SO I, AS THE GUARANTOR, HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE.


I'VE TALKED TO MY FATHER, AND THAT'S WHAT HE WANTS ME TO DO.
YES, I'M REALLY SORRY.
HUH... 10 MONTHS?


IT'S FOR TAX PURPOSES
BUT THE LOAN CONTRACT SHOULD STATE THAT I'M "BUYING 5 PIECES PER MONTH FOR 10 MONTHS."
IN OTHER WORDS, I'LL BE TAKING ALL 50 LITHOGRAPHS BACK WITH ME TODAY.


WELL-- I SUPPOSE IT DOESN'T CHANGE MUCH FOR US...
EVEN IF THE CONTRACT MENTIONS 10 PIECES, THE MONTHLY PAYMENT WON'T BE MUCH DIFFERENT.
EITHER WAY, SINCE THE TRANSACTION IS 40 MILLION YEN, I INTENDED TO PAY IN INSTALLMENTS.


--NOW THEN,
ALL RIGHT, SUNAGA-SAMA LET'S DO AS YOU WISH
...GEEZ, WHAT A TROUBLE-SOME RICH KID
THANK YOU SO MUCH!!


AND FILL IN THE PUR-CHASE DATE AS THE 25TH OF EACH MONTH, STARTING WITH THIS MONTH.
PLEASE FILL IN THE FORMS FOR 10 MONTHS RIGHT NOW.

THIS ARRANGE-MENT SHOULD ALSO BE OK FOR THE FOLLOWING MONTHS
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING THIS MONTH'S LOAN APPLI-CATION HAS BEEN APPROVED
GREAT!
Uwr rr

WELL THEN, PLEASE CONFIRM THE GOODS
FIFTY PETER ROSS LITHO-GRAPHS.
THESE ROSS LITHOGRAPHS REALLY ARE SUPERB!
AH... HOW ABOUT OUR DEAL?
YES, IT'S READY.
SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE.
OH, NO. BUT WE DON'T ALWAYS ACCEPT DEALS LIKE THIS.
YOU AND YOUR FATHER ARE TRUSTWORTHY PEOPLE, SO--
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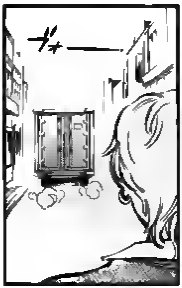
HERE'S THE 1 MILLION YEN



THANKS FOR EVERY-THING
ALWAYS A PLEASURE! COME AGAIN SOON

BUT...

I CAN SEE WHY HIS FATHER WON'T HAND HIM THE BUILD-ING.
WHAT A HOPELESS RICH KID... WE'RE ACTUALLY MAKING 40 MILLION YEN IN 10 MONTHS FOR DIRT-CHEAP COPIES.

S2S
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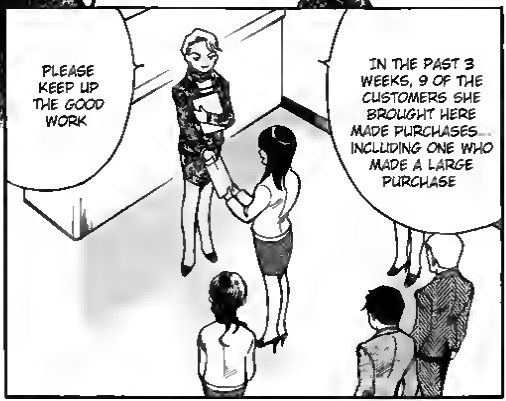
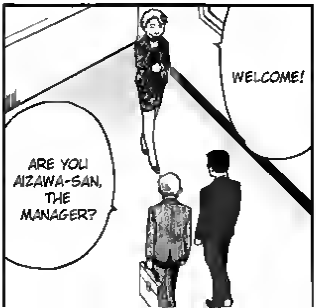
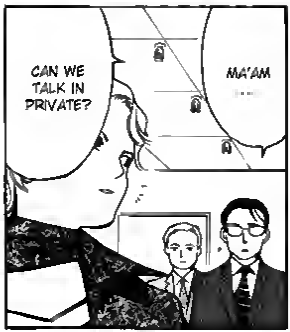
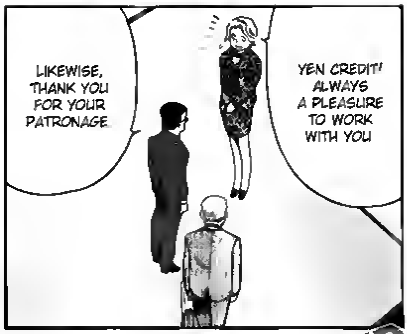
YOU JUST BOUGHT A LOT OF PAINTINGS BACK THERE-- HOW MUCH DID IT COST, BRO?
THEY'RE JUST SCRAP. YOU CAN HAVE THEM FOR 10 YEN IF YOU WANT.


PLEASE KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK
IN THE PAST 3 WEEKS, 9 OF THE CUSTOMERS SHE BROUGHT HERE MADE PURCHASES... INCLUDING ONE WHO MADE A LARGE PURCHASE



CHAPTER 67
ART GALLERY FRAUD (FINAL PART)





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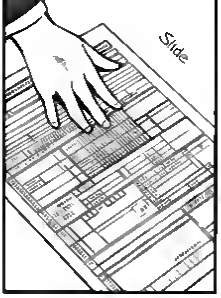
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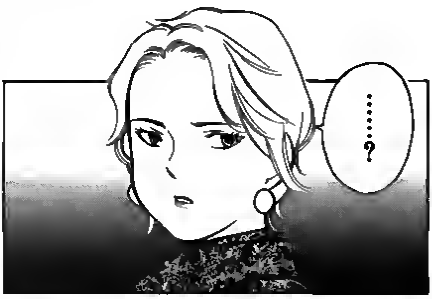
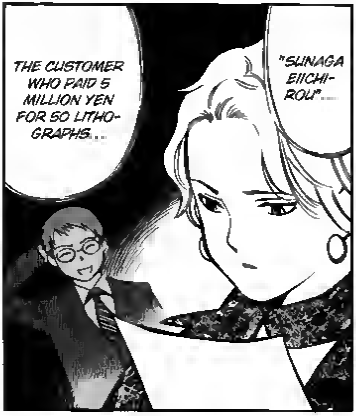
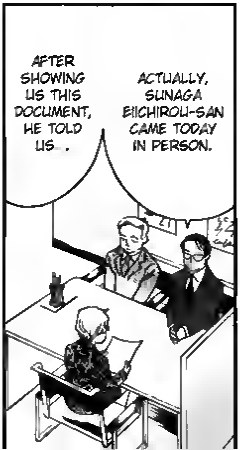

.....?


THE CUSTOMER WHO PAID 5 MILLION YEN FOR 50 LITHOGRAPHS...
"SUNAGA EIICHIROU"...

THIS IS THE LOAN CONTRACT WE APPROVED THE OTHER DAY.

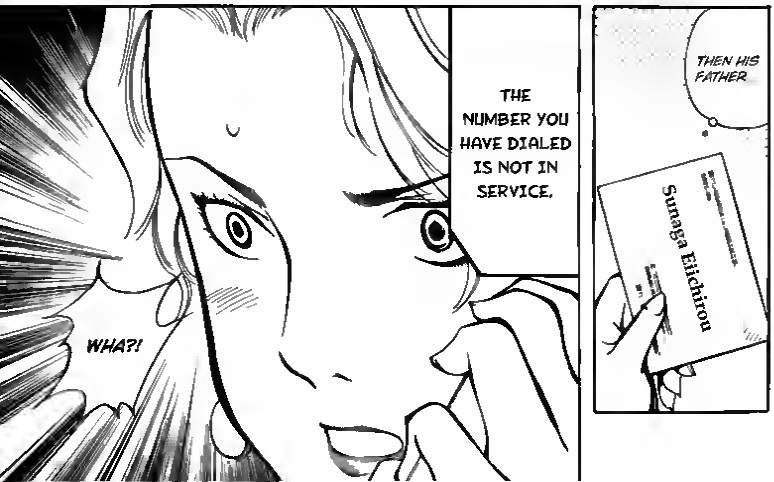
SOMEONE USED MY NAME TO APPLY FOR A LOAN!


AFTER SHOWING US THIS DOCUMENT, HE TOLD US...
ACTUALLY, SUNAGA EIICHIROU-SAN CAME TODAY IN PERSON.

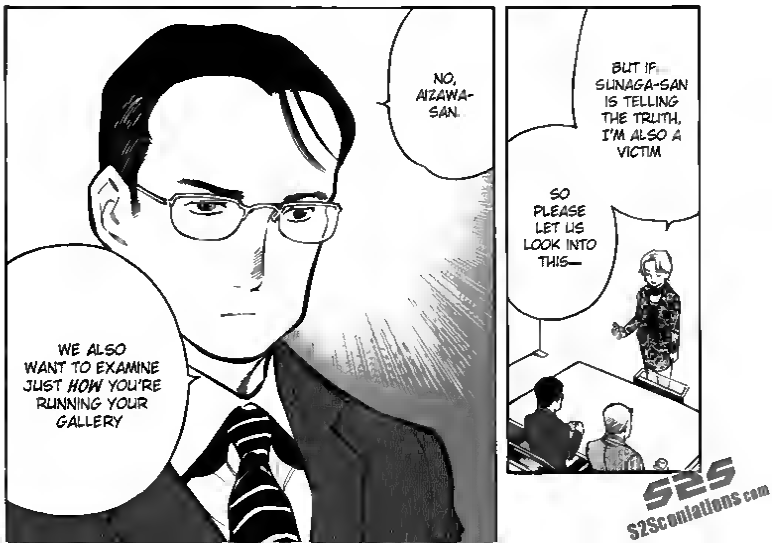
According to Sunaga-san, the contract was posted to him by an anonymous person.
He added that neither he nor his son remember agreeing to such a contract.
What did you say—?!
I made the agreement with his son in person
And I also confirmed the contract with Sunaga-san himself.
Clatter
NO WAY!
However... due to these complaints, our company will have to investigate the issue.
We'll suspend the payment of the loan until the investigations are over.

.....
THAT'S UNFAIR
IT'S 50 MILLION YEN, YOU KNOW?!
NO LUCK...
PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE AFTER THE BEEP...
Beep
Beep
LET ME CALL HIS SON, SINCE HE SIGNED THE CONTRACT.
ALL RIGHT...

5


THEN HIS FATHER...
Sunaga Eiichirou
THE NUMBER YOU HAVE DIALED IS NOT IN SERVICE.
WHA?!

ANYWAY, I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING
IT'S HIS HOUSE PHONE...
W-WHAT'S GOING ON...?!
I'M SORRY, I COULDN'T CONTACT THEM.
THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT THEY'LL DIG UP IF THEY PROBE FURTHER!


NO, AIZAWA-SAN.
WE ALSO WANT TO EXAMINE JUST *HOW* YOU'RE RUNNING YOUR GALLERY
BUT IF SUNAGA-SAN IS TELLING THE TRUTH, I'M ALSO A VICTIM
SO PLEASE LET US LOOK INTO THIS—

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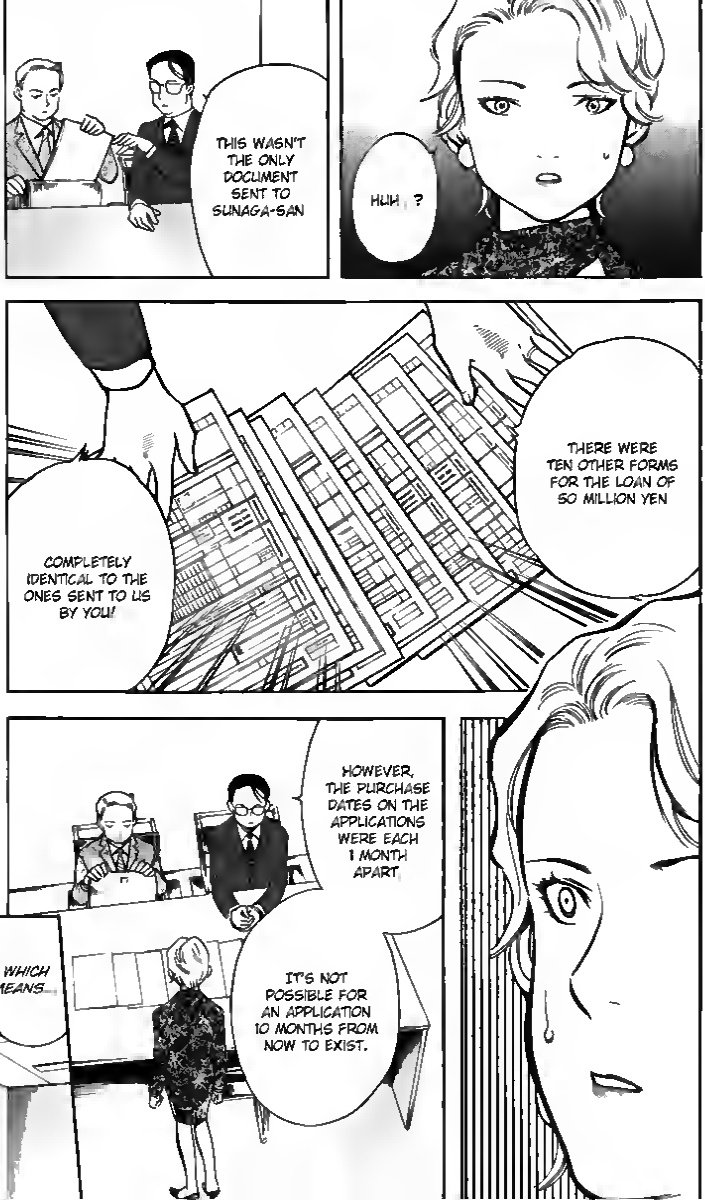
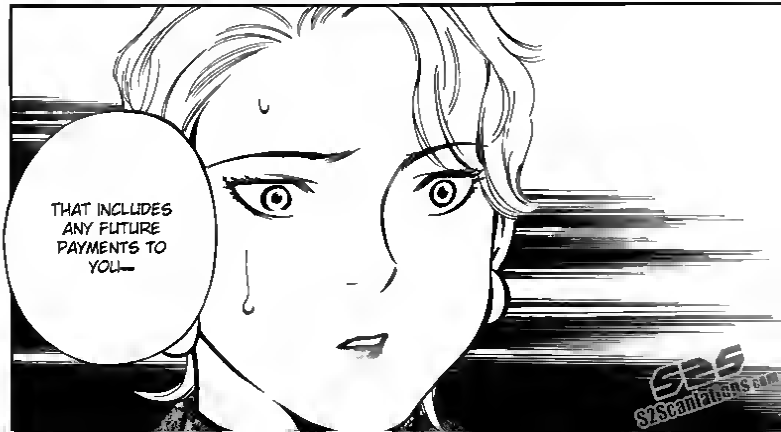

THIS WASN'T THE ONLY DOCUMENT SENT TO SUNAGA-SAN
HUH ?
THERE WERE TEN OTHER FORMS FOR THE LOAN OF 50 MILLION YEN
COMPLETELY IDENTICAL TO THE ONES SENT TO US BY YOU!
HOWEVER, THE PURCHASE DATES ON THE APPLICATIONS WERE EACH 1 MONTH APART.
IT'S NOT POSSIBLE FOR AN APPLICATION 10 MONTHS FROM NOW TO EXIST.
WHICH MEANS...

THIS LOAN APPLICATION, DIVIDED INTO 10 MONTHS, IS A MISREPRESENTATION—
AND VIOLATES OUR "TERMS OF USE."
WE CANNOT DO BUSINESS WITH SUCH A COMPANY.



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THE ONLY PERSON WITH THESE APPLICATIONS IS THAT MAN...
SO I'M POSITIVE THAT HE'S THE ONE WHO SENT THEM TO SUNAGA EIICHIROU
IF THAT'S THE CASE, HIS "FATHER" I SPOKE TO ON THE PHONE WAS A FAKE
HIS ACCOM-PLICE...
I WAS TRICKED BY THAT MAN...!
AND I WAS...

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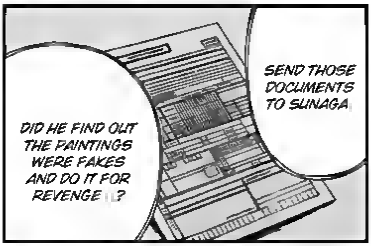
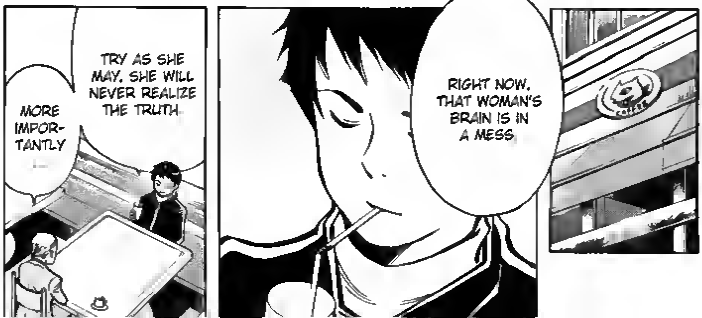
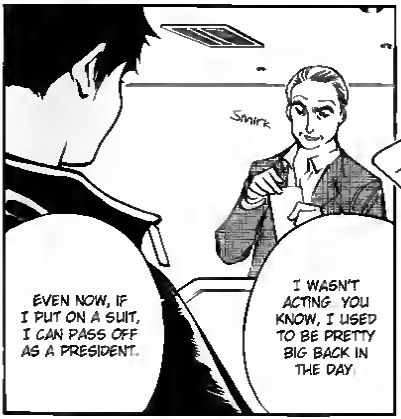


NO, THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE...
BUT
IF IT WERE, IT ALL MAKES SENSE!
BUT FOR WHAT PURPOSE—?!


RIGHT NOW, THAT WOMAN'S BRAIN IS IN A MESS.
TRY AS SHE MAY, SHE WILL NEVER REALIZE THE TRUTH.
MORE IMPOR-TANTLY

S2S
S2Sconlations.com



LIKE OWNING A DOWNTOWN BUILDING...
WELL, YOUR CURRENT SITUATION FIT MY SCENARIO
ALL I HAD TO DO FOR 1 MILLION YEN WAS SPEAK ON THE PHONE AND VISIT THE LOAN COMPANY
BUT I'M GLAD YOU CONTACTED ME
THERE AREN'T A LOT OF PEOPLE WITH THOSE SPECIFICS, Y'KNOW?
AND YOU HAVE A SON AROUND MY AGE...
YOU'RE CURRENTLY ON THE RUN DUE TO YOUR DEBT.
—THEN AGAIN, THAT'S WHY I'M IN THIS PREDICAMENT.
I NEVER TOOK OUT A LOAN THAT REQUIRED A MORTGAGE... BUT I DID OVERDO IT WITH PRIVATE LOAN FIRMS AND NONBANKS.
I GUESS.
ALSO, KAMIEDO BUILDING HAS ONLY A SINGLE BANK AS A MORTGAGEE. YOU SEEM CLEAN AT FIRST.

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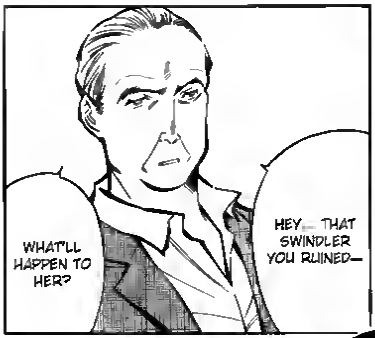
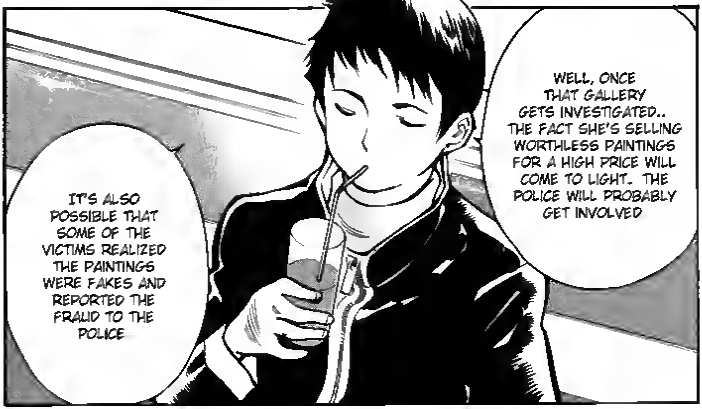
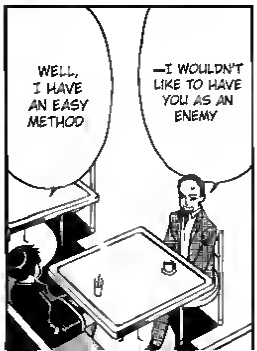
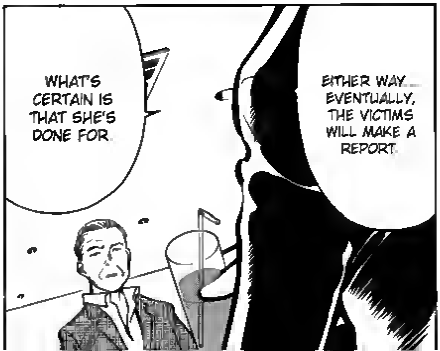



WELL, ONCE THAT GALLERY GETS INVESTIGATED.. THE FACT SHE'S SELLING WORTHLESS PAINTINGS FOR A HIGH PRICE WILL COME TO LIGHT. THE POLICE WILL PROBABLY GET INVOLVED
IT'S ALSO POSSIBLE THAT SOME OF THE VICTIMS REALIZED THE PAINTINGS WERE FAKES AND REPORTED THE FRAUD TO THE POLICE





JUST DON'T COMMIT A FRAUD.
YESTERDAY, I SAW PEOPLE WHO LOOKED LIKE POLICE TALKING WITH THE MANAGER—
THE GALLERY IS IN DEEP TROUBLE.
DID YOU HEAR?
HEY, YOU TWO!
THE LOAN FIRM WON'T PAY US ANYMORE, SO LET'S MOVE ON WHEN WE'RE DONE HERE.
BUT WHAT IF WE GET QUESTIONED TOO?
WELL, WHAT WE'RE DOING ISN'T EXACTLY LEGAL—

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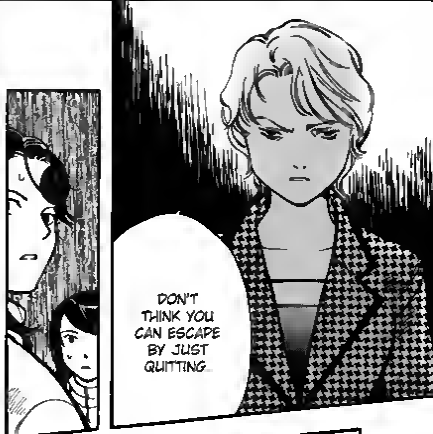
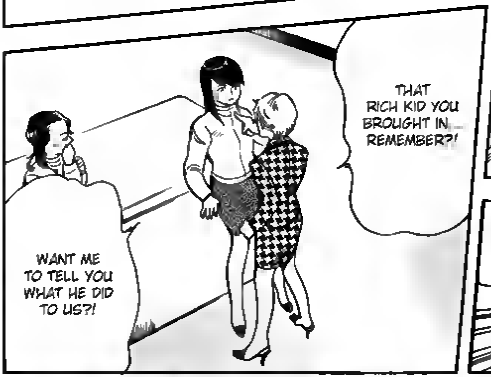
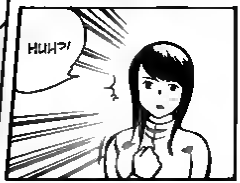
S2Scanlations.com







HEY...!
HEY, WAIT UP!
NOW I'M UNDER INVESTI-GATION BECAUSE YOU TRICKED THAT IDIOT MANAGER!
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT IT, YOU BASTARD?!
I KNEW IT..!!
YOU'RE THE GUY FROM BEFORE!!
"IT'S YOUR OWN FAULT FOR GETTING CHEATED."

AND DIDN'T YOU USE THAT PRETTY SMILE OF YOURS TO LURE IN YOUR PREY?
ISN'T THAT YOUR LOGIC?
YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO COMPLAIN TO ME
MAYBE YOU'LL BE ABLE TO COAX THE POLICE AS WELL?
IF YOU MAKE THE SAME SMILE
S2S
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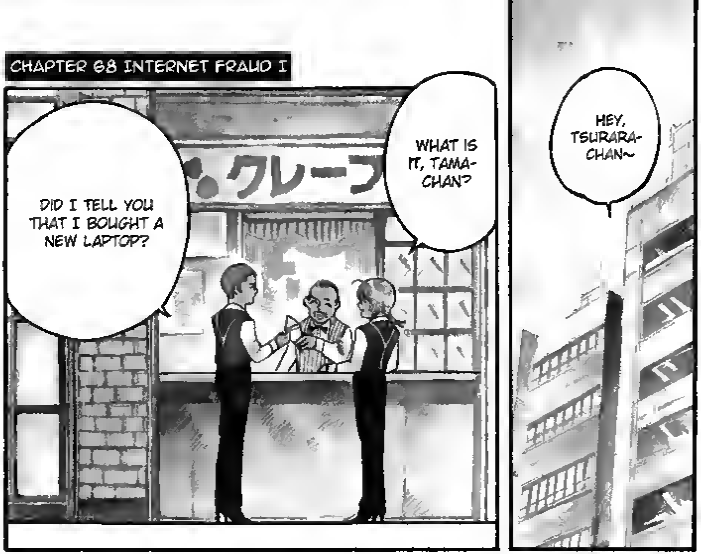
HEY, TSURARA-CHAN~
WHAT IS IT, TAMA-CHAN?
DID I TELL YOU THAT I BOUGHT A NEW LAPTOP?

I DIDN'T BUY IT AT A STORE
I BOUGHT IT FROM A INTERNET AUCTION
HUH? DID YOU TRY ASKING THE STORE?
BUT, I HAVEN'T RECEIVED IT YET

INTERNET...

CHAPTER 68 INTERNET FRAUD I
S2S
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SURE, NET AUCTIONS SOUND RISKY,
BUT THIS ONE WAS RATED HIGHLY BY OTHER USERS
WHEN DID YOU WIN THE BID?
FOUR WEEKS AGO
FOUR WEEKS AGO!?
YEAH, AND IT'S ALREADY BEEN 3 WEEKS SINCE THE EXPECTED DUE DATE.
AND EVEN AFTER 3 WEEKS, THEY'RE STILL TELLING ME TO WAIT A WEEK SINCE IT'S TAKING TIME TO PROCURE THE ITEM
.....
TAMA-CHAN ONCE WE'RE OFF WORK, SHOW ME THAT AUCTION SITE.

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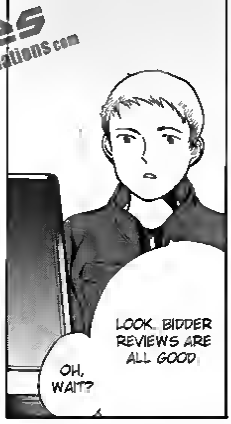
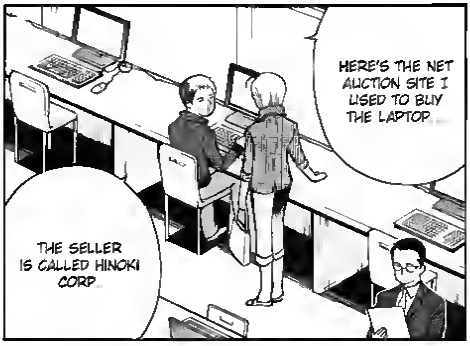
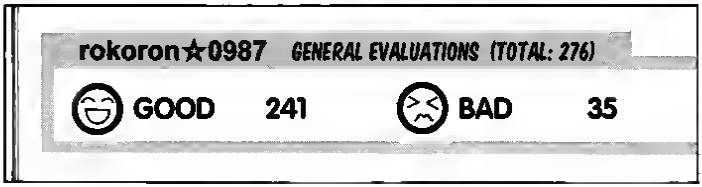
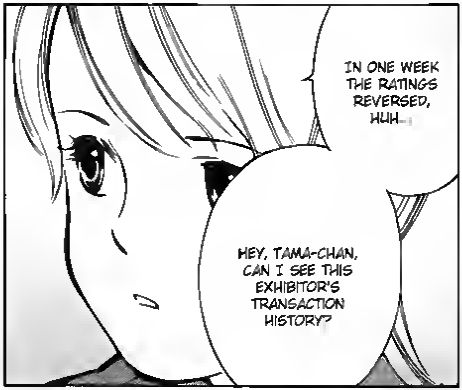
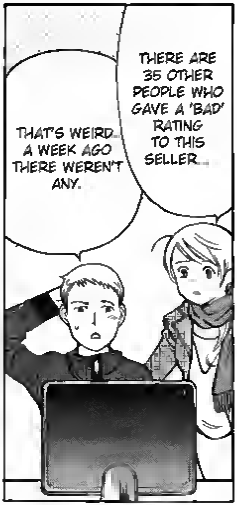
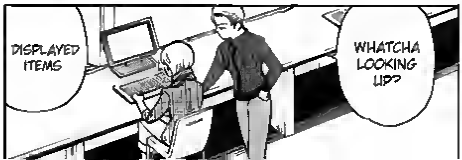


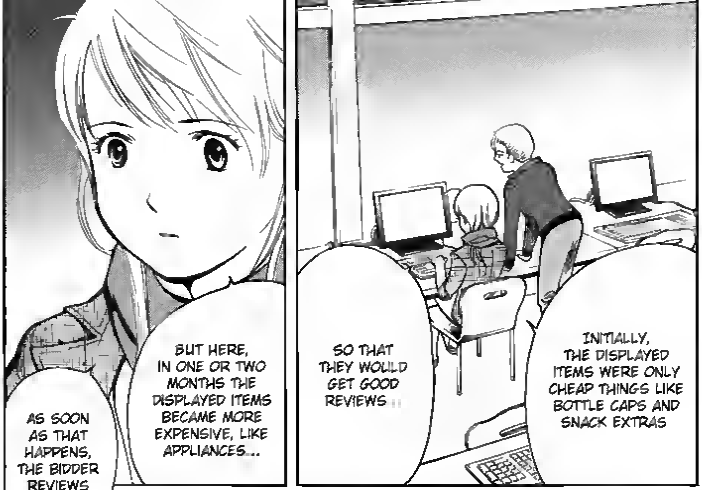


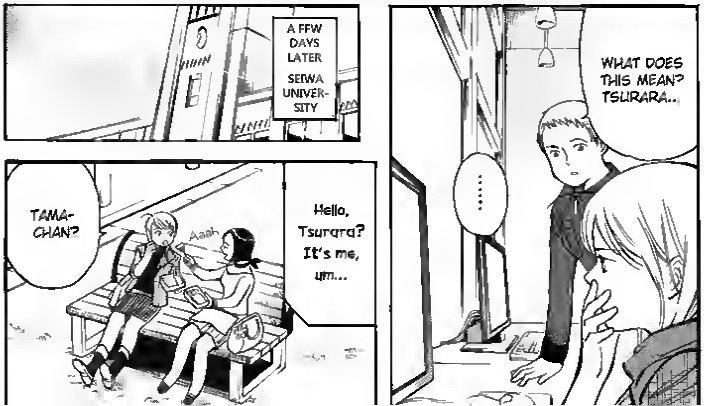









AS SOON AS THAT HAPPENS, THE BIDDER REVIEWS ARE—
BUT HERE, IN ONE OR TWO MONTHS THE DISPLAYED ITEMS BECAME MORE EXPENSIVE, LIKE APPLIANCES...
SO THAT THEY WOULD GET GOOD REVIEWS...
INITIALLY, THE DISPLAYED ITEMS WERE ONLY CHEAP THINGS LIKE BOTTLE CAPS AND SNACK EXTRAS
WINNING BIDDER REVIEW [WORST] ID: PRIVATE
Terrible I transferred the money, but I never received the item (2005 3 29)
WINNING BIDDER REVIEW [WORST] ID: PRIVATE
Please don't delay delivery any further
Please either ship the item or refund my money (2005 3 31)
WINNING BIDDER REVIEW [WORST] ID: PRIVATE


A FEW DAYS LATER
SEIWA UNIVERSITY
TAMA-CHAN?
Aaah
Hello, Tsurara? It's me, um...
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? TSURARA...

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Could you come with me?
Tsurara, it's nerve-wracking
……
SO, TODAY, I'M MEETING WITH THEM, BUT...
ACTUALLY, THERE'S THIS GUY WHO WAS ALSO A VICTIM OF THE EXHIBITOR, HINOKI CORP 'S AND APPARENTLY, HE'S LOOKING FOR OTHER VICTIMS.
I CONTACTED ALL OF YOU THIS TIME I AM SATOU
NICE TO MEET YOU ALL.
ALL RIGHT, LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS
THANK YOU FOR COMING.
TODAY, AMONG THOSE WHO HAVE NOT RECEIVED THEIR ITEMS FROM HINOKI CORP, I'VE INVITED THOSE WHO LIVE IN TOKYO.

AND THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY, IT BECAME IMPOSSIBLE TO REACH THEM BY PHONE - EITHER BY LANDLINE OR BY CELL
ALSO, WHEN THE TIME LIMIT COMES, THE EXPECTED DELIVERY DATE GETS EXTENDED.
EVERY ONE OF US WON THE BID FOR MERCHANDISE WORTH 50 TO 100 THOUSAND YEN, AND DESPITE TRANSFERRING THE MONEY, NONE OF US RECEIVED IT FROM THEM
...
ザワ ザワ
THEREFORE, I WAS THINKING OF GOING TO TAKE A LOOK
MOREOVER, WHAT'S KNOWN IS ONLY THE ADDRESS
THE WOMEN ARE PROBABLY NERVOUS ABOUT IT, SO WE WILL REPORT OUR PROGRESS AFTERWARDS
IT'S OK. JUST US MEN WILL GO
UM. BUT, ISN'T THAT A LITTLE DANGEROUS?
SINCE WE DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE THEY ARE...

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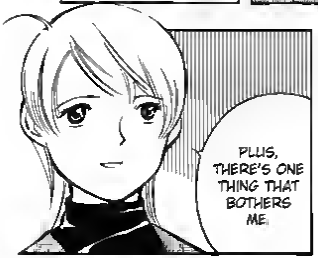

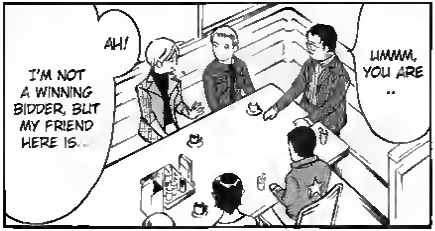

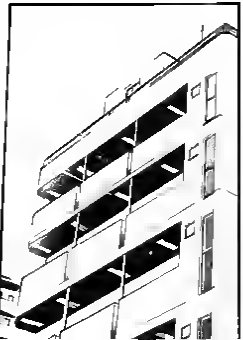

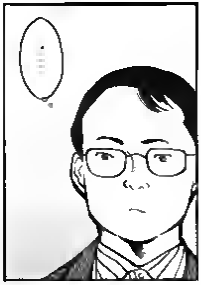

THE PEOPLE THERE MOVED OUT
THEY SEEM TO BE OUT...
Ding-dong! Ding-dong!
MOVED OUT!?
THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY THEY SAID THEY WERE GOING TO HOKKAIDO.
HOW ABOUT GOING TO THE POLICE?
EH? DON'T BET ON IT...
WE'VE NO PROOF THAT IT'S FRAUD.
A STALE-MATE, HUH...
YEAH, HOKKAIDO IS FAR...

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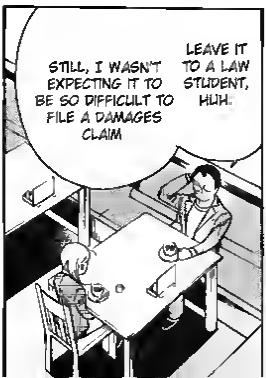
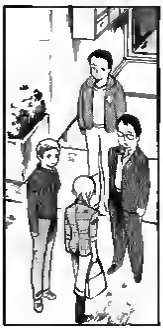
EH?
SINCE THEY PAINS-TAKINGLY ACCUMULATED GOOD REVIEWS FOR A NUMBER OF MONTHS, THEY COULDN'T JUST VACATE THE ROOM AND DISAPPEAR IF IT'S JUST PART-TIME WORK.

WHETHER THE POLICE CAN HELP IS... UNCERTAIN, BUT
IN THIS SITUATION, RATHER THAN LEAVING IT ALONE, IT'S BETTER TO FILE A DAMAGES CLAIM, EVEN IF IT'S IGNORED.





AH NO, THAT'S A DIFFERENT MATTER...
WAS THAT WHAT YOU WANTED TO DISCUSS WITH ME?
"WE'VE ALREADY FILED A REPORT AND APPLIED FOR A COMPENSATION FROM THE AUCTION SITE."
THE ONLY THING IS, AFTER THAT I TRIED TO GATHER EVERYONE AGAIN... BUT MOST OF THEM HAVE GIVEN UP PURSUING HINOKI CORP AND GAVE ME THE EXCUSE THAT
SO I WENT TO THE SITE ON A WHIM
ABOUT A MONTH AGO, I GOT A TEXT MESSAGE INTRODUCING A NEW SITE...
START UP INTRODUCTION
AND ON THE SITE'S MAIN PAGE THERE WAS A BUTTON.
03/12 04:30
FREE POINTS INSTANTLY!!
CLICK HERE!
ONE-CLICK FRAUD?
YOSHIKAWA-SAN, HAVE YOU HEARD OF 'ONE-CLICK FRAUD'?
NO WAY!
DID YOU JOIN?
THE CONTRACTOR SITE ASKED ME TO PAY A MEMBERSHIP FEE TO JOIN!
I CLICKED THE BUTTON AND WATCHED THE SITE, BUT...

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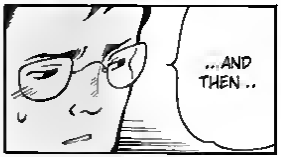
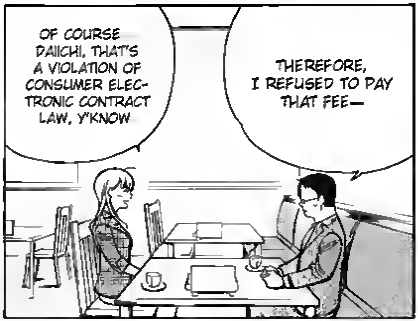
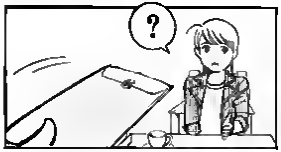
THE SITE MANAGER SAID THERE WAS AN ADMISSION PROCEDURE EVEN THOUGH THE BUTTON SAID 'FREE POINTS'.
BUT, IT WASN'T WRITTEN ANYWHERE!







TN: JUST OVER $2,000
THEY'RE WINNING, AND NOW I HAVE TO PAY 170,000 YEN.
THE 'ONE-CLICK' CONTRACTOR SITE IS DEMANDING THAT I PAY THE MEMBERSHIP FEE. I THINK THEY'RE TRYING TO SUE ME.
DIDN'T YOU GO TO COURT!?
THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN A COURT SUMMONS BEFORE THIS DOCUMENT WAS SENT!!
AH— IT CAME, I'M SURE OF IT.
BUT I THOUGHT IT WAS RIDICULOUS FOR A FRAUDULENT CONTRACTOR TO SUE ME...
HEY... WHAT SHOULD I DO?
DO I REALLY HAVE TO PAY THEM THE MONEY?
APPEALS MAY BE MADE, 2 WEEKS HAVE GONE BY...!

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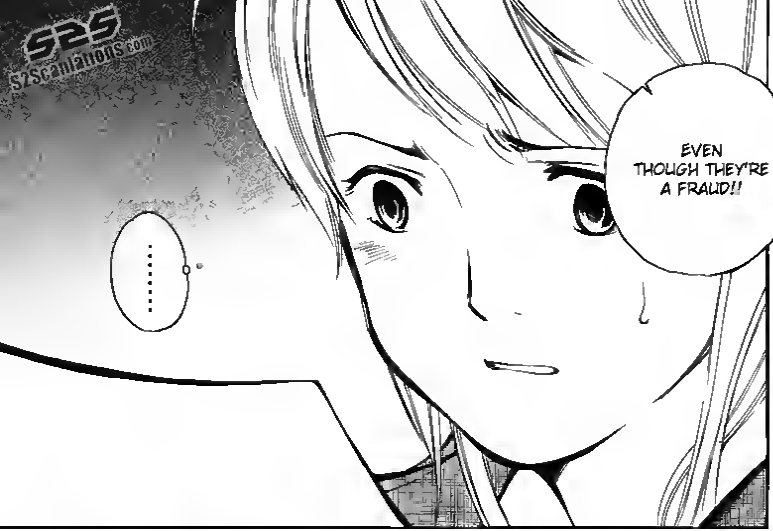


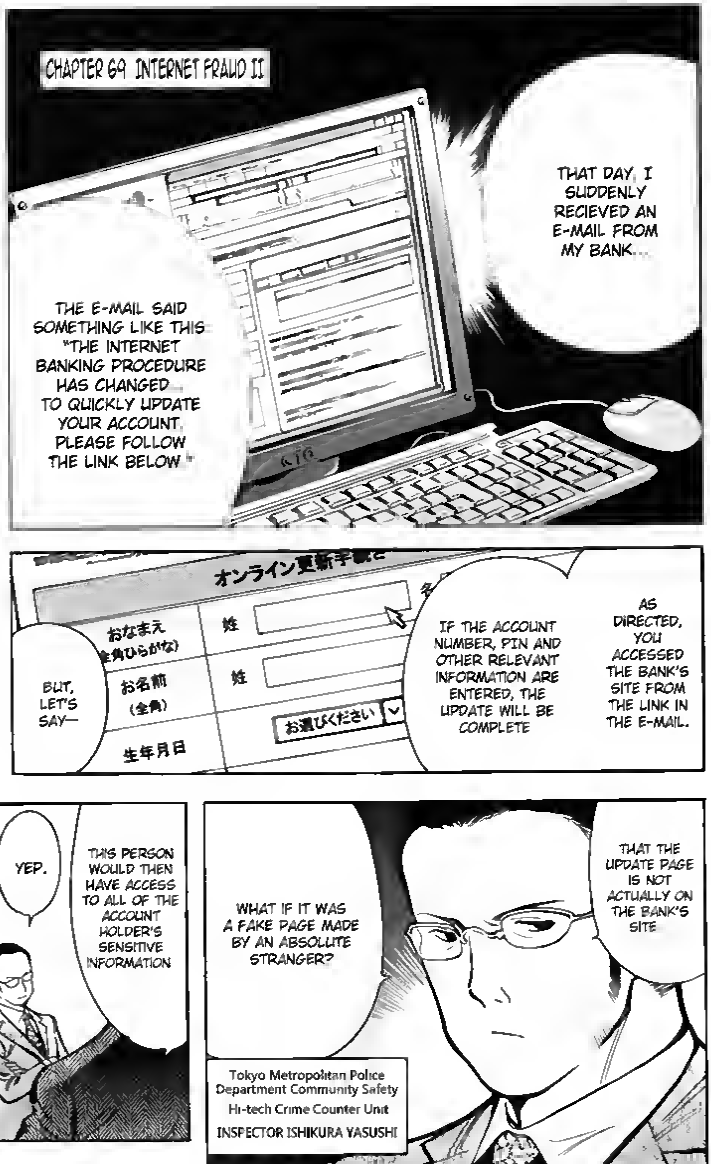
SIGN: KATSURA

THOSE ARE POPULAR NOW
SHIROSAGI WHO USE THE COURTS ARE PRETTY UNSTOPPABLE, HUH
SMALL CLAIMS SUIT, HUH
SMOKY
SMALL CLAIMS ARE
SIMPLE TRIALS EXCLUSIVE TO BILL CLAIMS UNDER 600 THOUSAND YEN, WHERE THE DECISION IS MADE IN ONE TRIAL FOR AN APPLICATION FEE OF ONLY 1% OF THE AMOUNT TO BE CLAIMED
RECENTLY, ONLINE SWINDLERS HAVE USED THE SYSTEM QUITE EFFECTIVELY...

THOSE NET SWINDLERS WOULD DEMAND THE CUSTOMER TO PAY THE CONTRACT DEPOSIT THROUGH METHODS SUCH AS ONE-CLICK FRAUDS, AND FILE A SMALL CLAIMS SUIT AT THE COURT
HOWEVER, MOST VICTIMS FAIL TO TAKE THE LAWSUIT FROM A SWINDLER SERIOUSLY AND CHOOSE TO IGNORE IT, LET ALONE APPEAR IN COURT.
THAT WAY EVERYTHING WOULD GO AS THE SWINDLER PLANNED... IT WOULD END UP AS AN COMPLETE VICTORY FOR THE PLAINTIFF DUE TO THE "DEFENDANT'S ABSENCE".
A COMPLETE VICTORY FOR THE PLAINTIFF
MEANS THAT NO MATTER WHAT ILLEGAL ACT IT WAS TO START WITH, THE VICTIM WOULD STILL HAVE TO PAY THE SWINDLER
THE VICTIM OF THE ONE-CLICK FRAUD WOULD BE TRANSFORMED FROM A "VICTIM" INTO A "DEBTOR"
I SEE. THEN THE VICTIM ENDS UP DUMBFOUNDED BY THE DEMAND FOR PAYMENT NOTICE FROM THE COURT
THEY WOULDN'T HAVE THAT PROBLEM IF THEY'D RAISED AN OBJECTION WITHIN 2 WEEKS
IT'S NOT A TRICK SOMEONE WOULD FALL FOR IF THEY KNEW A BIT ABOUT THE LAW.

WHICH IS WHY THERE ARE LOADS OF IGNORANT PEOPLE WHO FALL FOR IT...
KNOWLEDGE IS VALUED OVER TECHNIQUE, SO IT'S EASY FOR SHIROSAGI TO FLOURISH.
INTERNET FRAUDS ARE SCAMMERS WHO DON'T SHOW THEIR FACE
I DON'T SEE MUCH POINT DEALING WITH THEM...
NOT HAVING TO SHOW THEIR FACES MEANS THAT EVEN AN AMATEUR COULD DO IT, RIGHT?
BUT I'M NOT TOO EXCITED ABOUT THIS SHIROSAGI.
LARGE-SCALE... HUH.
IF THOSE SWINDLERS WERE ONLY PREPARING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR A LARGE-SCALE FRAUD THEY'RE ABOUT TO PULL OFF.
I THOUGHT YOU'D BE INTERESTED
S2S S2Scanlations.com

YOU MEAN PHISHING FRAUD...?!
I SEE...
EVEN THOUGH HE'S A COWARDLY SHIROSAGI, WHO SNATCHES HIS VICTIMS FROM THE SHADOWS WITHOUT REVEALING HIMSELF...
IF HE'S GONNA USE A NEW METHOD THAT'S JUST MADE ITS GRAND APPEARANCE ON JAPANESE SOIL
HE MIGHT STILL BE A PREY WORTH DEVOURING


CHAPTER 69 INTERNET FRAUD II
THAT DAY, I SUDDENLY RECIEVED AN E-MAIL FROM MY BANK...
THE E-MAIL SAID SOMETHING LIKE THIS "THE INTERNET BANKING PROCEDURE HAS CHANGED... TO QUICKLY UPDATE YOUR ACCOUNT, PLEASE FOLLOW THE LINK BELOW."
オンライン更新手続
おなまえ (全角ひらがな)
姓
お名前 (全角)
姓
生年月日
お選びください
BUT, LET'S SAY—
IF THE ACCOUNT NUMBER, PIN AND OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION ARE ENTERED, THE UPDATE WILL BE COMPLETE
AS DIRECTED, YOU ACCESSED THE BANK'S SITE FROM THE LINK IN THE E-MAIL.
YEP.
THIS PERSON WOULD THEN HAVE ACCESS TO ALL OF THE ACCOUNT HOLDER'S SENSITIVE INFORMATION
WHAT IF IT WAS A FAKE PAGE MADE BY AN ABSOLUTE STRANGER?
THAT THE UPDATE PAGE IS NOT ACTUALLY ON THE BANK'S SITE
Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department Community Safety
Hi-tech Crime Counter Unit
INSPECTOR ISHIKURA YASUSHI

THAT IS WHAT WE CALL A "PHISHING FRAUD."
CHAPTER 69
INTERNET FRAUD II
JUST IN AMERICA, TRICKS LIKE THESE CAUSE ABOUT $130 BILLION WORTH OF DAMAGE. THAT'S CLOSE TO 15 TRILLION YEN
AND THIS SCHEME HAS FINALLY LANDED IN JAPAN
IT'S A PRETTY LARGE-SCALE FRAUD, I TAKE IT.
WE WERE BOUND TO BE HIT BY IT SOONER OR LATER.
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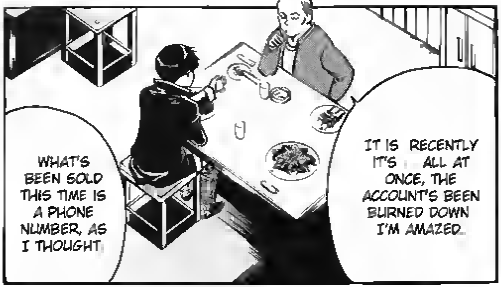
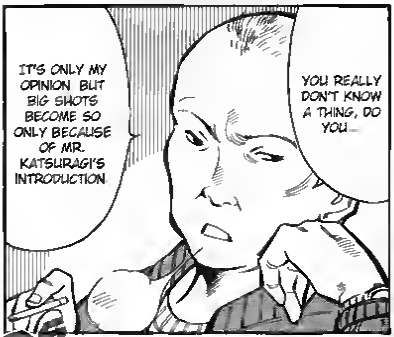
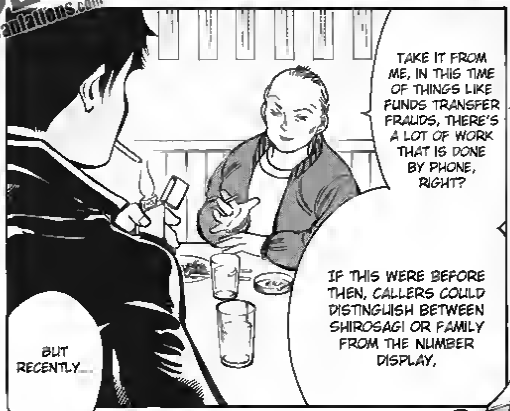
I'VE HEARD THAT...
YOU CHANGE YOUR EXPRESSION WHEN IT COMES TO INVESTIGATING FRAUDS
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY SOMEONE LIKE YOU, WHO DEALS WITH FRAUDS LIKE THIS FOR THE POLICE CAME TO ME ABOUT THIS.
HOWEVER, MR. ISHIKURA.
BUT WE STILL DON'T HAVE ANY NAMES
ACTUALLY, NOW, THERE IS A GROUP WHO'VE SET THEIR EYES ON INTERNET-BASED FRAUDS,
SINCE WE ARE CHRONICALLY UNDERMANNED, AND OUR CHIEF HAS JUST BEEN APPOINTED, WE ARE LACKING ON THE HI-TECH FRONT.
WILL YOU NOT HELP, KASHINA?
YOU'RE INTERESTED, RIGHT?


WHAT'S BEEN SOLD THIS TIME IS A PHONE NUMBER, AS I THOUGHT
IT IS RECENTLY IT'S ALL AT ONCE, THE ACCOUNT'S BEEN BURNED DOWN I'M AMAZED...


IT'S ONLY MY OPINION BUT BIG SHOTS BECOME SO ONLY BECAUSE OF MR. KATSURAGI'S INTRODUCTION
YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW A THING, DO YOU...

WILL THE PHONE NUMBER BE PUT UP FOR SALE?
THERE ARE BRIGHT FENCERS LIKE ME ON THE INTERNET, AND PHONE NUMBERS ARE THE BIGGEST COMMODITY RIGHT NOW.


BUT RECENTLY...
IF THIS WERE BEFORE THEN, CALLERS COULD DISTINGUISH BETWEEN SHIROSAGI OR FAMILY FROM THE NUMBER DISPLAY,
TAKE IT FROM ME, IN THIS TIME OF THINGS LIKE FUNDS TRANSFER FRAUDS, THERE'S A LOT OF WORK THAT IS DONE BY PHONE, RIGHT?

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IT'S POSSIBLE TO DISGUISE THE NUMBER ON THE DISPLAY.
AND THERE'S THE 'CALL-BACK' FEATURE.
IN OTHER WORDS, THE BUYER OF THE PHONE NUMBER IS THAT KIND OF FUNDS TRANSFER GROUP.
THE FUNDS TRANSFER GROUP WANTS THE PERSONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED TO THAT PHONE NUMBER.
IN FRAUDS LIKE THIS, MORE INFORMATION MAKES IT EASIER FOR THE SCAMMERS TO ENSNARE THEIR VICTIMS.
WELL THEN, I THINK THE ONES WHO ARE SELLING THE PHONE NUMBERS WITH PERSONAL INFORMATION ARE...
THE SAME SHIROSAGI BEHIND THE INTERNET AUCTION FRAUD AND 'ONE-CLICK FRAUD.'
THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR ONLINE FRAUDS TAILOR THEIR SCHEMES TO THEIR VICTIMS, RIGHT?
THE 'ONE-CLICK' MERCHANT TOO... THEY USE THE PHISHED PHONE NUMBER, CALL A PHONE QUESTIONNAIRE GET OTHER PERSONAL INFORMATION, AND RAISE A SMALL-CLAIMS SUIT.
THEN, WITHIN THIS 'PERSONAL INFO ATTACHED PHONE NUMBER' DEAL, OUR WAY IS TO SELL THOSE WHO ARE MARKED TO THE FUNDS TRANSFER GROUP.
I JUST ACT AS A MEDIATOR FOR THESE GROUPS.
.....

.....
YOU WANT AN ACCOUNT? A PHONE NUMBER?
THE POINT IS, DO YOU WANT SOMETHING FROM ME?
YOU TOO BECAUSE YOU HAVE YET TO CONNECT A FACE TO MR KATSURAGI FOR ME, YOU COME TO SEE ME INSTEAD.
THIS GUY
Tap
WHAT I WANT ISN'T AN ACCOUNT OR PHONE NUMBER OR ANYTHING, BUT...
S2S
S2ScanlationScan
YOU KNOW HIM?
HIYAMA YASUHIRO... AN INTERNET-STYLE SHIROSAGI.
HOW MUCH PREP HELP WOULD YOU ALLOW ME TO SELFISHLY ASK FOR?
I AM YOUR PARTNER IN A DEAL. I WANT TO CRUSH THIS SHIROSAGI, HIYAMA.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

I DON'T THINK IT'S A BAD DEAL, RIGHT?
AS PART OF YOUR ASKING PRICE, TELL ME WHOM YOU SELL HIYAMA'S INFORMATION TO.
...YOU
WANT ME TO TELL YOU THE CUSTOMER I'LL SELL TO?
WHY WOULD SOMEONE LIKE YOU HAVE THAT KINDA MONEY?
YEAH
DO YOU REALLY HAVE THE MONEY?
....
AM A BIGSHOT THAT HAVE AT LEAST BEEN INTRODUCED TO KATSURAGI' - IS THAT WHAT YOU WERE EXPECTING?
BECAUSE I...

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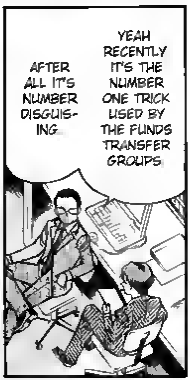
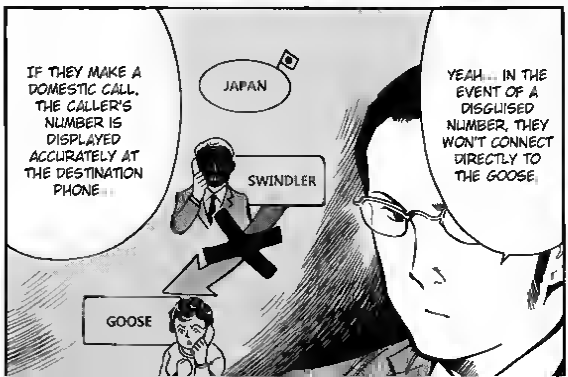
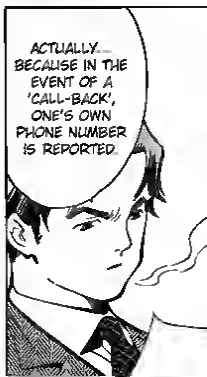
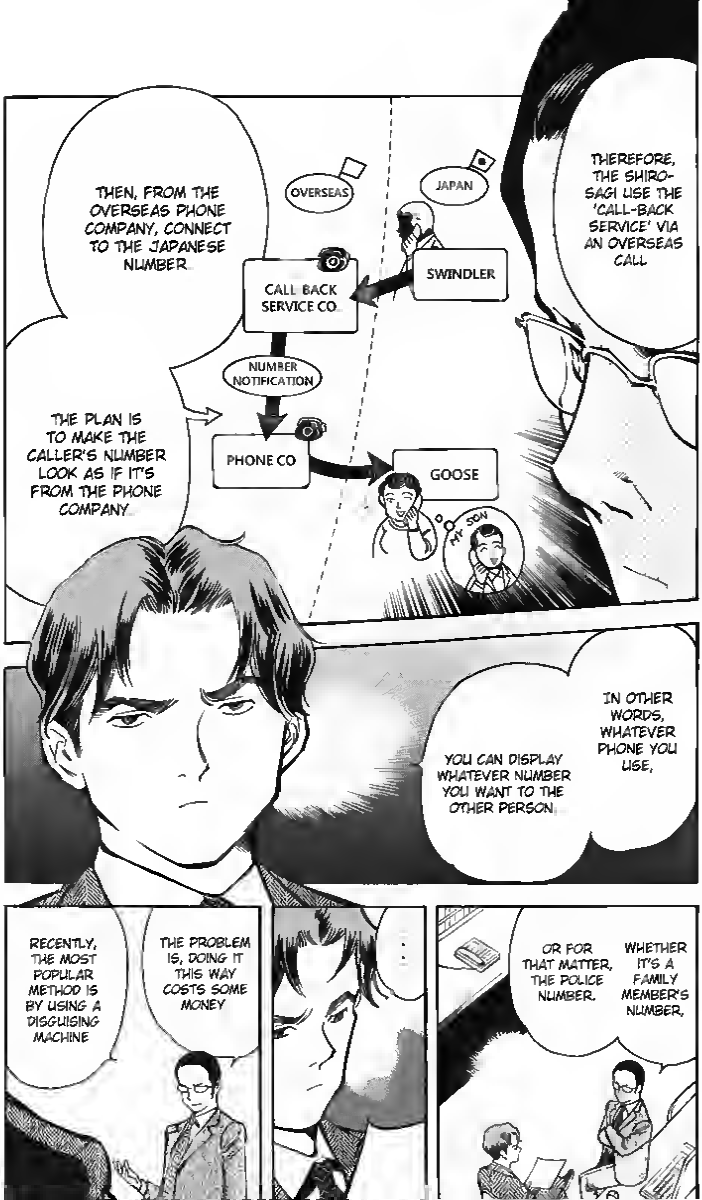
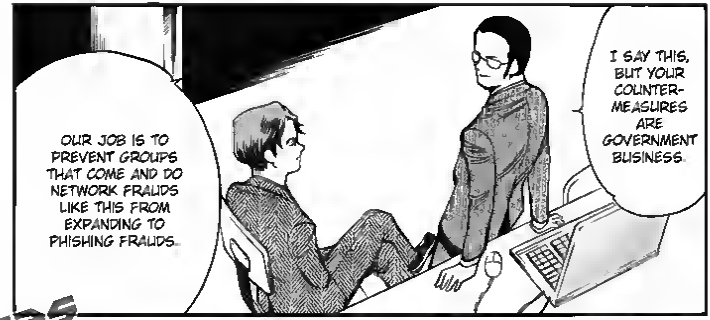
ORIGINALLY, 'CALL-BACK' WAS A SERVICE THAT WOULD GO THROUGH A COUNTRY WITH A LOW INTERNATIONAL CALL RATE WHEN MAKING AN INTERNATIONAL CALL, TO END UP LOWERING THE BILL.
SWINDLER GROUPS ABUSE THIS TO DISGUISE THEIR NUMBERS.




IF THEY MAKE A DOMESTIC CALL, THE CALLER'S NUMBER IS DISPLAYED ACCURATELY AT THE DESTINATION PHONE...
JAPAN
SWINDLER
GOOSE
YEAH... IN THE EVENT OF A DISGUISED NUMBER, THEY WON'T CONNECT DIRECTLY TO THE GOOSE.




THEREFORE, THE SHIRO-SAGI USE THE 'CALL-BACK SERVICE' VIA AN OVERSEAS CALL
JAPAN
OVERSEAS
SWINDLER
CALL BACK SERVICE CO.
THEN, FROM THE OVERSEAS PHONE COMPANY, CONNECT TO THE JAPANESE NUMBER.
NUMBER NOTIFICATION
PHONE CO
GOOSE
THE PLAN IS TO MAKE THE CALLER'S NUMBER LOOK AS IF IT'S FROM THE PHONE COMPANY.
MY SON
IN OTHER WORDS, WHATEVER PHONE YOU USE,
YOU CAN DISPLAY WHATEVER NUMBER YOU WANT TO THE OTHER PERSON.
RECENTLY, THE MOST POPULAR METHOD IS BY USING A DISGUISING MACHINE
THE PROBLEM IS, DOING IT THIS WAY COSTS SOME MONEY
WHETHER IT'S A FAMILY MEMBER'S NUMBER,
OR FOR THAT MATTER, THE POLICE NUMBER.


I SAY THIS, BUT YOUR COUNTER-MEASURES ARE GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.
OUR JOB IS TO PREVENT GROUPS THAT COME AND DO NETWORK FRAUDS LIKE THIS FROM EXPANDING TO PHISHING FRAUDS.

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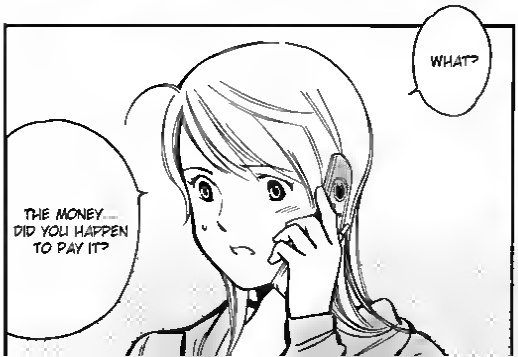
AMONG THE FACELESS, THOUGH, THEY ARE A MYSTERY.
IF YOU TRY TO DRAG THEM OUT INTO THE OPEN, THEY END UP LOOKING SURPRISINGLY AVERAGE.



THE PERIOD TO RAISE AN OBJECTION TO THE DEMAND FOR PAYMENT HAS PASSED, BUT
NEXT TO COME, A DEMAND FOR PAYMENT WITH A DECLARATION OF PROVISIONAL EXECUTION. IF YOU JUST RAISE A FORMAL OBJECTION TO THAT, EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE!
NO WAY! MR. SATO!
YOU PAID THE ENTRANCE FEE TO THE 'ONE-CLICK' MERCHANT!?
I LOOKED UP A FEW THINGS, AND THE PROCESS FOR RAISING AN OBJECTION SEEMS UNEXPECTEDLY DIFFICULT, SO...
WELL, YOU TOLD ME ABOUT THAT AND I WOULD HAVE DONE IT, BUT...
.....
I am grateful to you, but
I don't know what I would do if it went beyond a legally correct matter.
.....
Bang!

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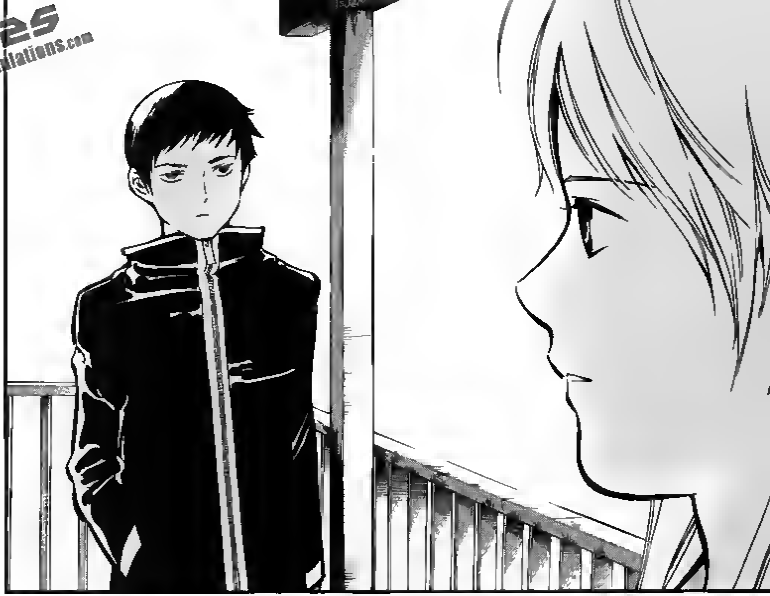

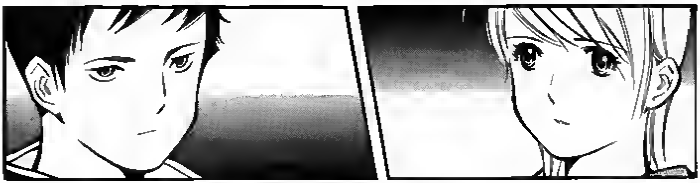

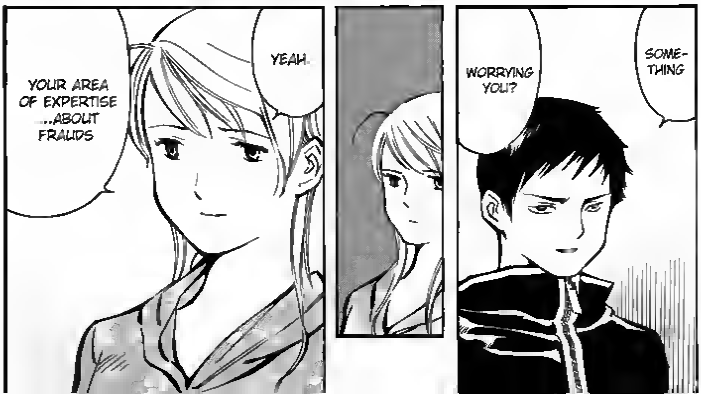

OH! PERFECT TIMING!
I WANNA MEET THESE DUMB GEESE!
SOME ACQUAINTANCES HAVE BEEN HIT BY INTERNET FRAUDS, ONE RIGHT AFTER ANOTHER
FRAUDS?
I THINK IF IT'S YOU, WE CAN GET THEM BACK THEIR MONEY.
RIGHT?
WE MIGHT BE USEFUL TO EACH OTHER.
I THOUGHT YOU'D SAY THAT...
DON'T TELL ME HOW YOU DO IT.
BUT,

I WANT YOU TO REMEMBER THAT I SAID 'I LIKE YOU.'
I SAID BEFORE
WHY AREN'T YOU SAYING THAT I SHOULD KNOW ABOUT IT?
I AM A SWINDLER UNTIL I DIE.
MY LIFESTYLE WILL NOT CHANGE, NO MATTER WHAT ANYONE THINKS.
Y'KNOW
I WANT YOU TO THINK THIS OVER WITH A COOL HEAD.
YOU
DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THE MEANING TO WHAT I SAID.
IF YOU ARE SERIOUS, ISN'T IT EMBARRASSING TO YOU?
AND SINCE YOUR AMBITION IS TO BE A PUBLIC PROSECUTOR, I THINK YOU SHOULD STOP JOKING ABOUT THINGS LIKE THAT.
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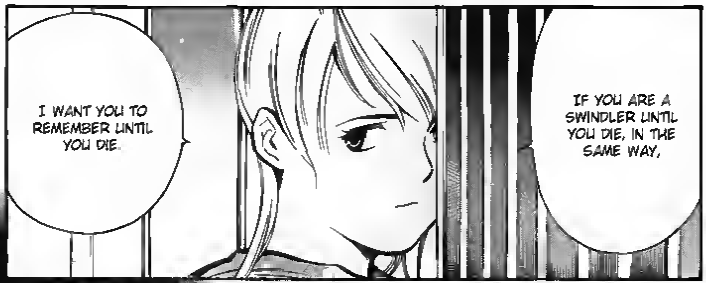
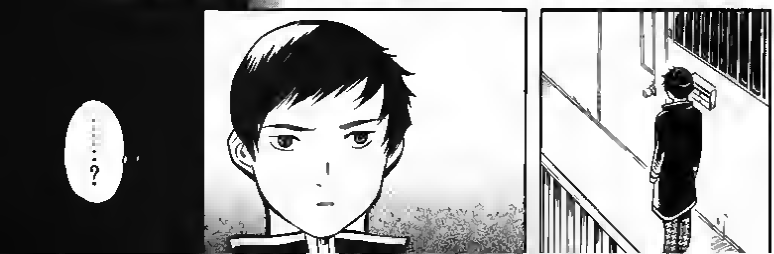
LIVING IN A DIFFERENT WORLD, OR CHANGING ONE'S LIFESTYLE—
THAT SORT OF THING IS IRRELEVANT.
ALL THAT MATTERS IS THAT I 'ONLY WANT YOU TO REMEMBER.'


I WANT YOU TO REMEMBER UNTIL YOU DIE.
IF YOU ARE A SWINDLER UNTIL YOU DIE, IN THE SAME WAY,


……?

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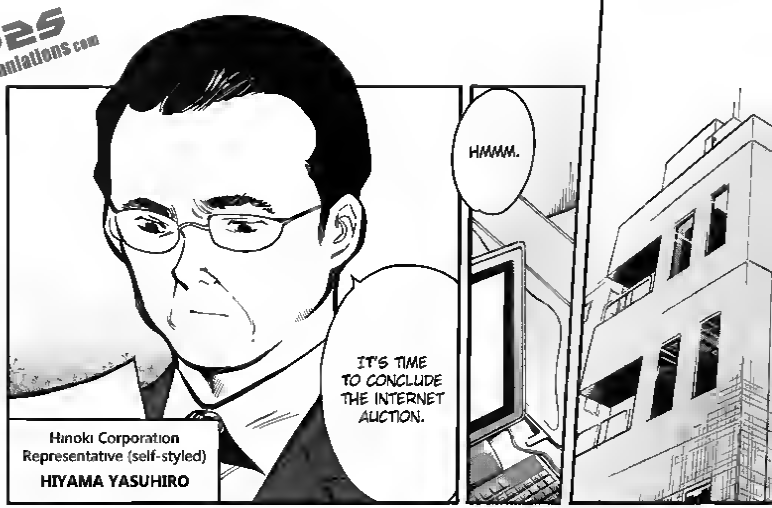
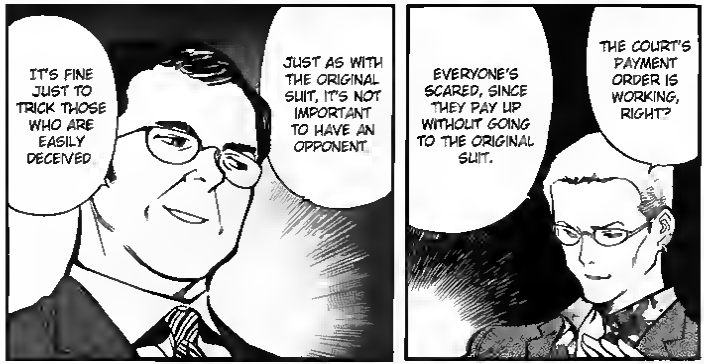
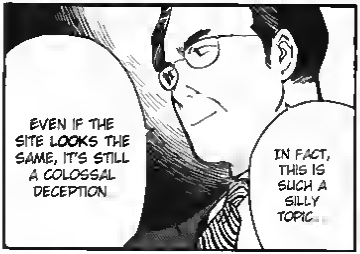


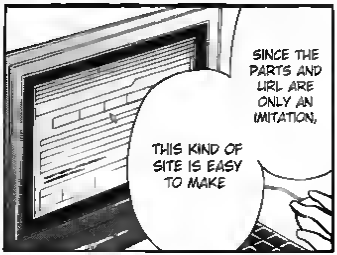
HOW'S 'ONE-CLICK' GOING?
AS FOR THE FUNDS, IF WE'VE MADE ENOUGH IT'S FINE.
RIGHT? SINCE NOT HAVING ACTUAL PRODUCTS HAS BECOME PROHIBITED.

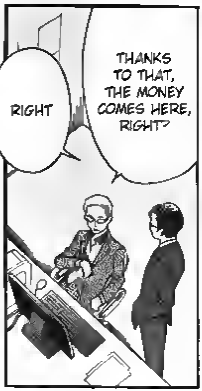

IT'S FINE JUST TO TRICK THOSE WHO ARE EASILY DECEIVED
JUST AS WITH THE ORIGINAL SUIT, IT'S NOT IMPORTANT TO HAVE AN OPPONENT.
EVERYONE'S SCARED, SINCE THEY PAY UP WITHOUT GOING TO THE ORIGINAL SUIT.
THE COURT'S PAYMENT ORDER IS WORKING, RIGHT?

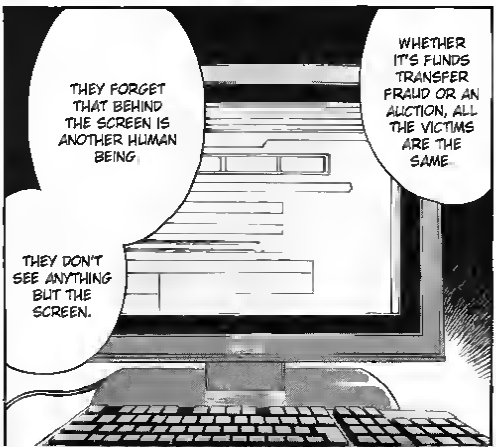
FOR NOW, THE CARD COMPANY SITE, CONNECTED TO OUTE* BANK, HAS STARTED.
WHETHER IT'S AN AUCTION OR 'ONE-CLICK', IF WE COLLECT FUNDS FROM HERE ON
IS OUR MAIN FOCUS. HOW ARE PREPARATIONS?

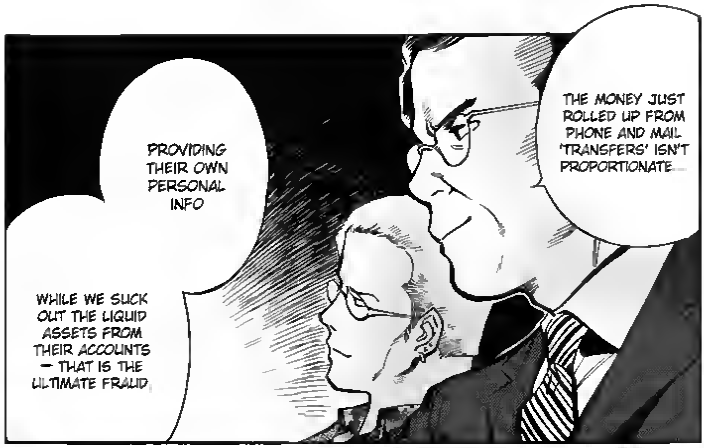
*Note: "Oute" means "Big Hand."

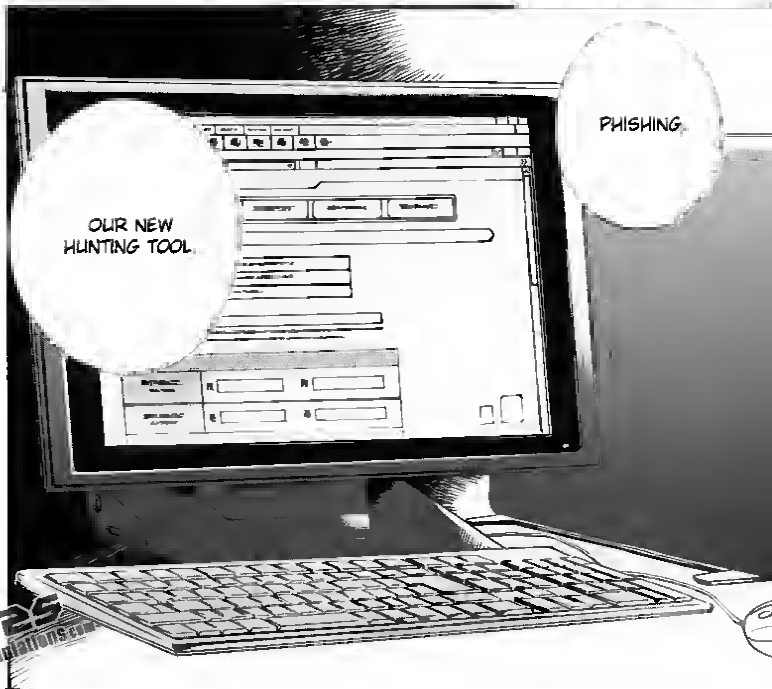







THEY FORGET THAT BEHIND THE SCREEN IS ANOTHER HUMAN BEING.
WHETHER IT'S FUNDS TRANSFER FRAUD OR AN AUCTION, ALL THE VICTIMS ARE THE SAME.
THEY DON'T SEE ANYTHING BUT THE SCREEN.


THE MONEY JUST ROLLED UP FROM PHONE AND MAIL 'TRANSFERS' ISN'T PROPORTIONATE.
PROVIDING THEIR OWN PERSONAL INFO
WHILE WE SUCK OUT THE LIQUID ASSETS FROM THEIR ACCOUNTS — THAT IS THE ULTIMATE FRAUD.



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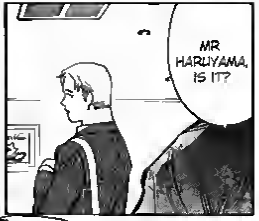
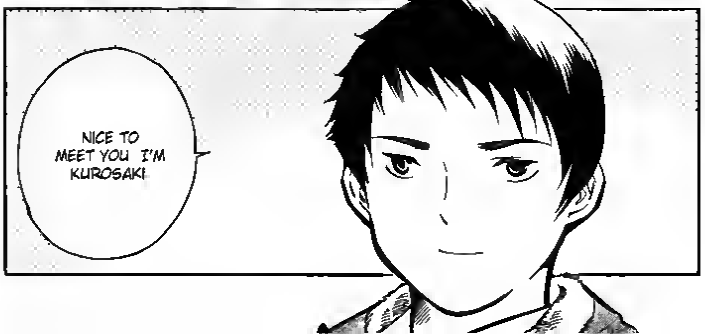
CHAPTER 70 INTERNET FRAUD III





FIRST OFF, I'D LIKE TO CONFIRM SOMETHING.
MR. HARUYAMA, YOU HAVE ALSO BEEN HARMED BY THE ONE-CLICK FRAUD, RIGHT?
A DEMAND OF PAYMENT FROM THE COURT?
YES, IT CAME.
I KNOW NOTHING.
AFTER I GOT THE FIRST NOTICE, I SHOWED UP PROPERLY IN COURT. DESPITE THIS, THE 'ONE-CLICK' MERCHANT DIDN'T LOSE IN SMALL-CLAIMS COURT.
GOOD.
THEN... THE COURT ISN'T FINISHED WITH YOUR CASE YET, IS IT?
THEN, HAVE YOU ALREADY PAID THE MONEY?
NO, NOT YET.
AS A JOURNALIST, I'M NOW WRITING ABOUT THE ONE-CLICK MERCHANT'S ABUSE OF THE COURT SYSTEM
TRUTH IS, MR. HARUYAMA — WE SPOKE A LITTLE ABOUT THIS ON THE PHONE, BUT
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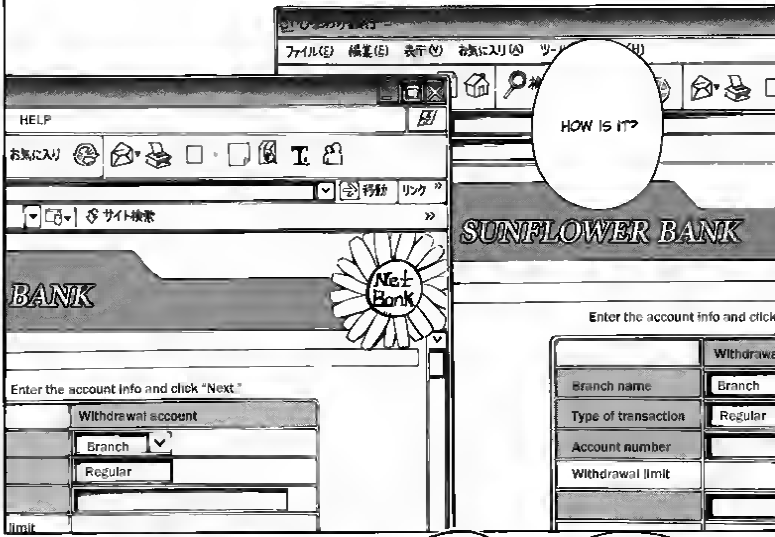
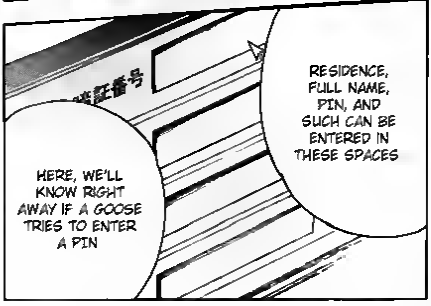
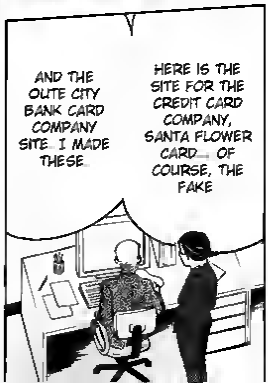
I'LL SPEAK HONESTLY, SINCE I'M IN SUCH A SITUATION RIGHT NOW...
BUT...
THEREFORE, IF YOU'RE OK WITH IT, I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU SOME QUESTIONS.
IS THAT ALL RIGHT? OF COURSE, THERE'S A REWARD.
IF YOU COOPERATE WITH ME, MR HARUYAMA,
I CAN TELL YOU SOMETHING GOOD—
THE WAY TO LET YOU OUT OF THE ONE-CLICK MERCHANT'S GRASP.
GET AWAY FROM THE ONE-CLICK MERCHANT?!


HELP
BANK
Net Bank
Enter the account info and click "Next."
Withdrawal account
Branch
Regular
limit
HOW IS IT?
SUNFLOWER BANK
Enter the account info and click
Withdrawa
Branch name
Branch
Type of transaction
Regular
Account number
Withdrawal limit

BEAUTIFULLY DONE.
WHEREVER ONE LOOKS, IT'S THE SAME.
ON THE RIGHT IS THE ACTUAL WEB SITE FOR SUNFLOWER BANK. ON THE LEFT IS THE FAKE SITE I MADE.


HERE, WE'LL KNOW RIGHT AWAY IF A GOOSE TRIES TO ENTER A PIN
RESIDENCE, FULL NAME, PIN, AND SUCH CAN BE ENTERED IN THESE SPACES


AND THE OUTE CITY BANK CARD COMPANY SITE. I MADE THESE.
HERE IS THE SITE FOR THE CREDIT CARD COMPANY, SANTA FLOWER CARD... OF COURSE, THE FAKE

E-MAIL IS ALSO NECESSARY. MAKE A SITE FOR E-MAIL CLIENTS, TOO.
IF I COULD, IT WOULD FINALLY BE THE START OF A LARGE PROJECT.
WELL DONE. HOW WOULD THIS WORK FOR E-MAIL?
THAT'S WHAT WE'RE WORKING ON NEXT.
REALLY?
YEAH. YOU SHOULD GET ANOTHER DOCUMENT NOW.
IS THAT FINE, MR HARUYAMA?
IN YOUR CASE, THE DEADLINE FOR RAISING AN OBJECTION HAS ALREADY PASSED, BUT IT SHOULD BE FINE NOW.
THE PROCESS MIGHT BE A LITTLE DIFFICULT, BUT IT WON'T BE AN UNWANTED SITUATION.
.....
FROM THERE, YOU HAVE 2 WEEKS TO FORMALLY DISPUTE THE DEMAND. THIS TIME, YOU DEFINITELY MUST RAISE AN OBJECTION.
THE NEXT ONE TO COME IS A "DECLARATION OF PROVISIONAL EXECUTION ON A DEMAND FOR PAYMENT".

W-WHY WOULD THEY?
IF YOU DO SO, THOSE GUYS WILL ABSOLUTELY PULL OUT
FROM HERE, IF YOU RAISE AN OBJECTION, IT WILL BECOME AN ORIGINAL PROCESS IN THE COURT
THIS GROUP OF SWINDLERS
HATES SMART PEOPLE
MY INTEREST ISN'T PARTICULARLY IN THESE ONE-CLICK MERCHANT GUYS, BUT IN INTERNET SWINDLERS...
SINCE I WANT TO SEE HOW THIS GROUP MOVES AFTER THIS
BUT, MR. KUROSAKI...
IF YOU WANT TO EXPLORE THE ONE-CLICK MERCHANT'S TRENDS, WOULDN'T THE GROUP PULLING IT OUT PUT YOU AT A DISADVANTAGE?
NOPE THE EXACT OPPOSITE

IS THAT ALL RIGHT? IF AN E-MAIL COMES, PLEASE CONTACT ME.
YES, UNDERSTOOD
WITH THIS, I'M FINISHED WITH 9 PEOPLE.
NOW THEN, THE NEXT VICTIM IS...
SHIT! SHIT!
BLAP BLAP
POLICE HEADQUARTERS
THESE GUYS
I JUST MARKED, THEY SEEM TO BE THE AUCTION SWINDLERS.
SEEM?
JUST THEIR MOVEMENTS LOOK STRANGE.
NOTHING IS PROVEN YET...

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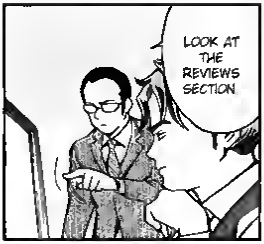
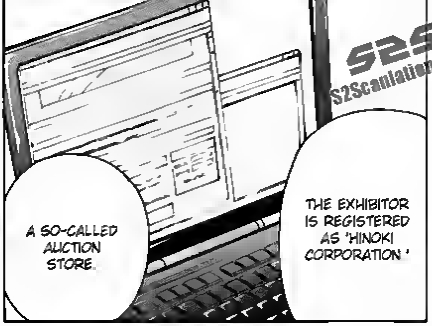
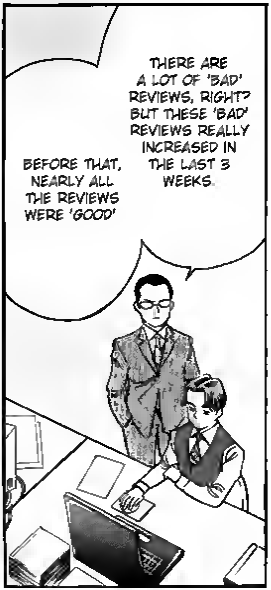




rokoron★0987 GENERAL EVALUATIONS (TOTAL: 363)

GOOD 241 BAD 122

IN OTHER WORDS, YOU'RE SAYING THAT IN ORDER TO PULL OFF THE FRAUD, THEY ACCUMULATED 'GOOD' REVIEWS UNTIL THEN?
MORE THAN THAT, THE SWINDLERS BOUGHT AND USED THE GOOD REVIEWS THEY GOT FROM STRANGERS.


THERE ARE A LOT OF 'BAD' REVIEWS, RIGHT? BUT THESE 'BAD' REVIEWS REALLY INCREASED IN THE LAST 3 WEEKS.
BEFORE THAT, NEARLY ALL THE REVIEWS WERE 'GOOD'

WITH A WARRANT, COULDN'T WE FORCE THE SPONSOR OF THE AUCTION SITE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THESE GUYS?
IT'S NOT THAT EASY. AT THIS POINT, THERE'S NO WAY FOR ME TO GET A WARRANT.
AND, AS FOR ME, I WISH TO REVEAL THE MAIN BODY OF THIS HINOKI CORP.
THROUGH A PROSECUTION OF THE NET AUCTION FRAUDS, BUT...
THEN, WHAT ABOUT A WRITTEN INQUIRY?
A WRITTEN INQUIRY... BUT THAT—
IF IT'S A WRITTEN INQUIRY, IT'LL BE EASY BECAUSE IT'S COMING FROM THE POLICE RATHER THAN THE COURTS
THEN WE COULD MAKE THE AUCTION SITE SPONSOR DISCLOSE THE INFORMATION.
WAIT, KASHINA...
YOU PROBABLY KNOW THIS ALREADY, BUT A WRITTEN INQUIRY IS HARDER TO ENFORCE THAN A SEARCH WARRANT.

WHOEVER IT IS, THEY DON'T WANT TO DEAL WITH US, RIGHT?
IF I WAVE PAPERS IN THEIR FACE AND THREATEN THEM, THEY'LL RELEASE THE INFORMATION
WELL THEN, LET'S BE OFF — FIRST THE AUCTION SITE SPONSOR, AFTER THAT, THE PROVIDER. SOUND LIKE A PLAN?
HEY, KASHINA...
I'M OFF TO CATCH THE SUPERINTENDENT AND GET HIM TO GIVE ME A WRITTEN INQUIRY.
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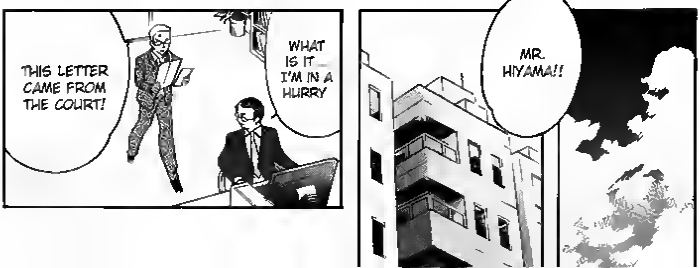
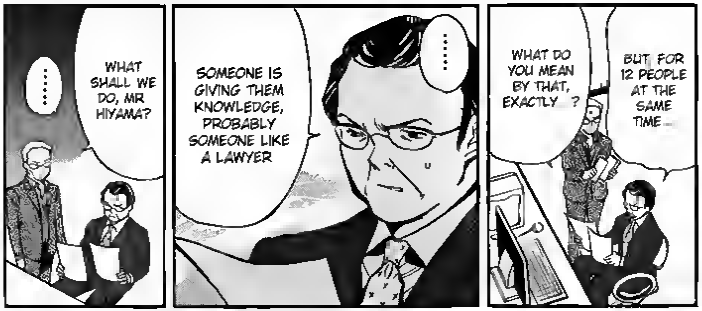
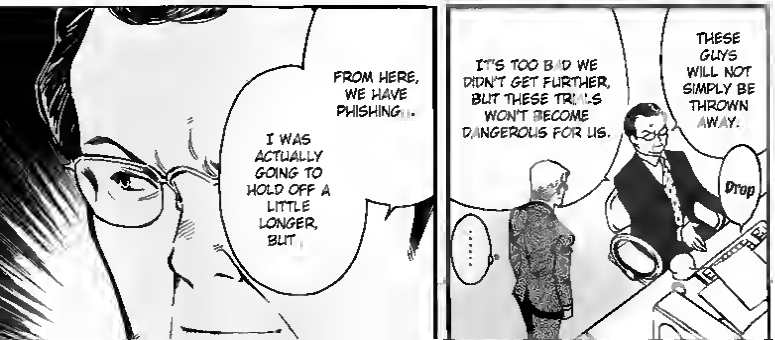
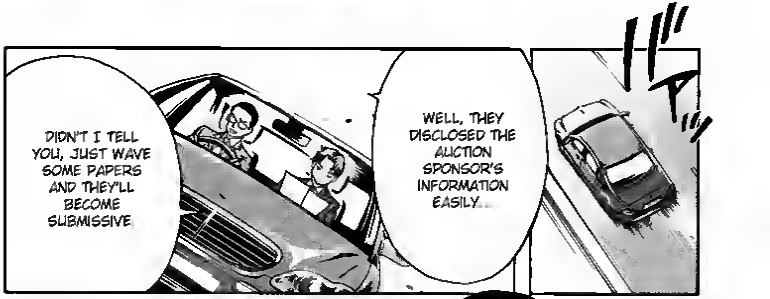

THIS LETTER CAME FROM THE COURT!
WHAT IS IT — I'M IN A HURRY
MR. HIYAMA!!

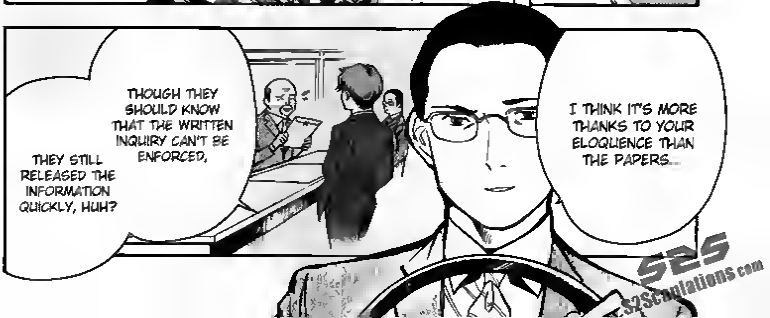
A ONE-CLICK VICTIM HAS FILED AN ORIGINAL SUIT?!


WHAT SHALL WE DO, MR HIYAMA?
……
SOMEONE IS GIVING THEM KNOWLEDGE, PROBABLY SOMEONE LIKE A LAWYER
……
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT, EXACTLY…?
BUT FOR 12 PEOPLE AT THE SAME TIME…


FROM HERE, WE HAVE PHISHING…
I WAS ACTUALLY GOING TO HOLD OFF A LITTLE LONGER, BUT…
IT'S TOO BAD WE DIDN'T GET FURTHER, BUT THESE TRIALS WON'T BECOME DANGEROUS FOR US.
……
THESE GUYS WILL NOT SIMPLY BE THROWN AWAY.
Drop

GET IT? SINCE WE KNOW WHICH BANKS THE VICTIMS OF OUR AUCTION FRAUD USE,
MAKE SURE YOU SEND THE FAKE MAIL TO THOSE GEESE.
UNDERSTOOD.


WELL, THEY DISCLOSED THE AUCTION SPONSOR'S INFORMATION EASILY...
DIDN'T I TELL YOU, JUST WAVE SOME PAPERS AND THEY'LL BECOME SUBMISSIVE.


I THINK IT'S MORE THANKS TO YOUR ELOQUENCE THAN THE PAPERS...
THOUGH THEY SHOULD KNOW THAT THE WRITTEN INQUIRY CAN'T BE ENFORCED,
THEY STILL RELEASED THE INFORMATION QUICKLY, HUH?

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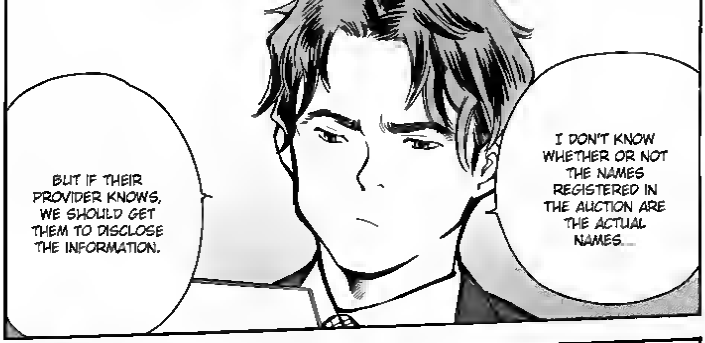
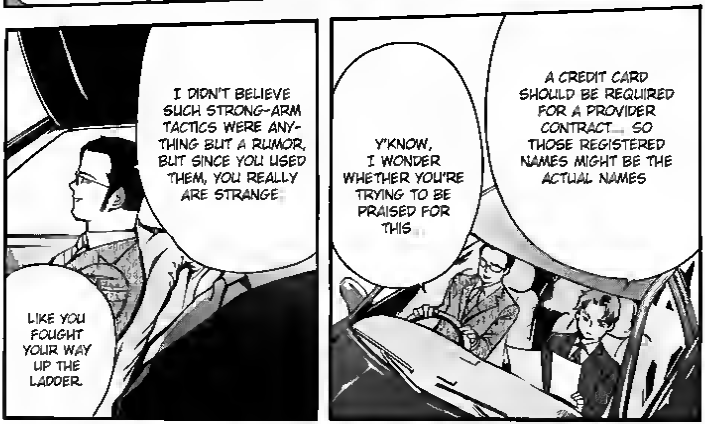
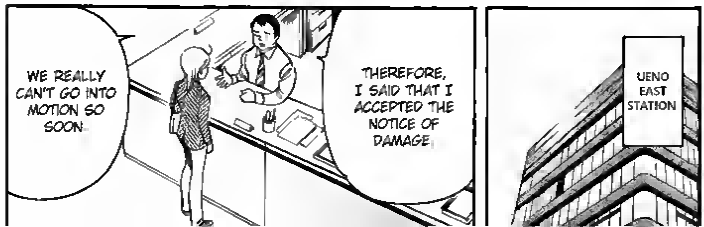
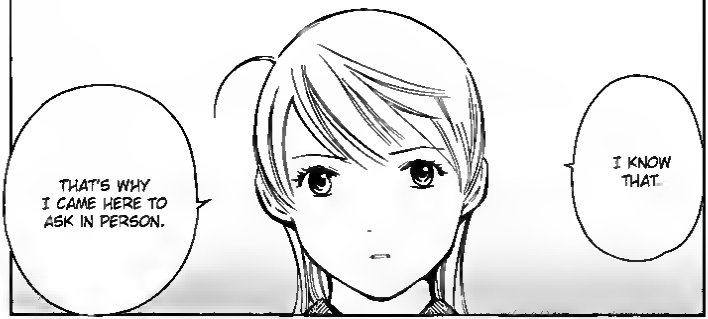
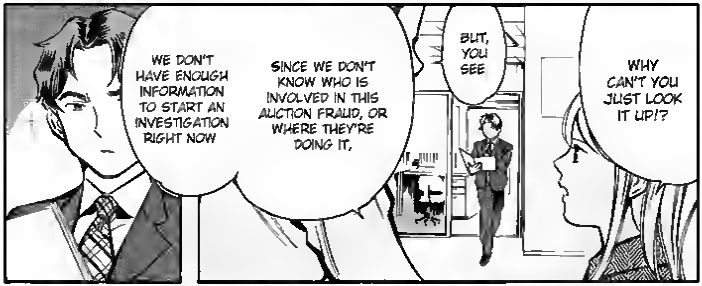

I DON'T KNOW WHETHER OR NOT THE NAMES REGISTERED IN THE AUCTION ARE THE ACTUAL NAMES...
BUT IF THEIR PROVIDER KNOWS, WE SHOULD GET THEM TO DISCLOSE THE INFORMATION.


A CREDIT CARD SHOULD BE REQUIRED FOR A PROVIDER CONTRACT... SO THOSE REGISTERED NAMES MIGHT BE THE ACTUAL NAMES
Y'KNOW, I WONDER WHETHER YOU'RE TRYING TO BE PRAISED FOR THIS...
I DIDN'T BELIEVE SUCH STRONG-ARM TACTICS WERE ANYTHING BUT A RUMOR, BUT SINCE YOU USED THEM, YOU REALLY ARE STRANGE...
LIKE YOU FOUGHT YOUR WAY UP THE LADDER.

.....


WE REALLY CAN'T GO INTO MOTION SO SOON...
THEREFORE, I SAID THAT I ACCEPTED THE NOTICE OF DAMAGE.
UENO EAST STATION




WHY CAN'T YOU JUST LOOK IT UP!?
BUT, YOU SEE
SINCE WE DON'T KNOW WHO IS INVOLVED IN THIS AUCTION FRAUD, OR WHERE THEY'RE DOING IT,
WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH INFORMATION TO START AN INVESTIGATION RIGHT NOW

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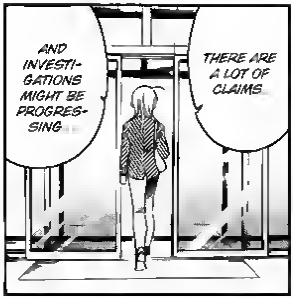
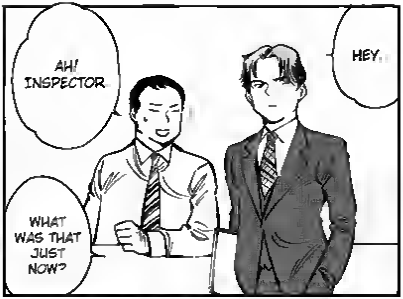
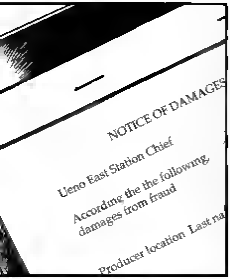
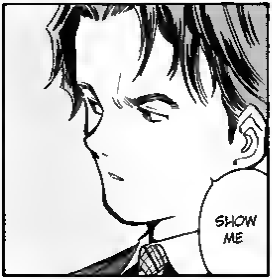

AND INVESTIGATIONS MIGHT BE PROGRESSING...
THERE ARE A LOT OF CLAIMS...


AH! INSPECTOR...
HEY.
WHAT WAS THAT JUST NOW?


NOTICE OF DAMAGES
Ueno East Station Chief
According the the following damages from fraud
Producer location Last na


SHOW ME

NO, THE DAMAGE NOTICE CAME FROM HER FRIEND...
IS SHE ONE OF THE VICTIMS?

'HINOKI CORPORATION'...
THE SWINDLERS WE'RE AFTER!

NOTICE OF DAMAGE FROM A NET AUCTION FRAUD
THE PRODUCER IS REGISTERED AS...

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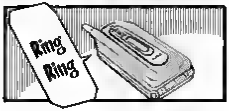

AN E-MAIL CAME FROM SUNFLOWER BANK AND SANTA FLOWER CARD, WHERE I MADE ACCOUNTS.
THE CONTENT WAS THE SAME AS YOU SAID: 'THE NET BANKING SYSTEM HAS CHANGED. PLEASE FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE.'
YEAH, JUST AS YOU SAID, I RAISED AN OBJECTION WITHOUT GOING TO COURT. THE OPPONENT ESCAPED, AND I WAS RELEASED WITHOUT HAVING TO PAY.
AND THEN TODAY, AN EXAMPLE E-MAIL CAME.
I SENT YOU THE ATTACHED LINK.
VERY GOOD. NOW, PLEASE DO AS I SAY, MR HARUYAMA.
FIRST OFF, PLEASE DEPOSIT ALL THE MONEY INTO YOUR ACCOUNT AT SUNFLOWER BANK.
IN ADDITION, THERE'S THAT SUSPICIOUS E-MAIL. PLEASE ENTER THE REQUIRED INFORMATION ON THE FAKE BANK SITE,
INCLUDING YOUR PIN.
DO THE SAME THING FOR THE CARD COMPANY. ONCE YOU FILL IN THE INFORMATION ON THE LINKED PAGE FROM THE E-MAIL, PLEASE CALL IN A NOTICE OF LOSS.
THEN THE SWINDLER GROUP WILL ASSUME YOU'VE BEEN DECEIVED.

GOOD, GOOD...
LITTLE BY LITTLE, YOU'RE MAKING A MOVE, HIYAMA.
IS THAT FINE? CAN YOU DO IT?
I-I UNDERSTAND, I'LL DO IT RIGHT AWAY.
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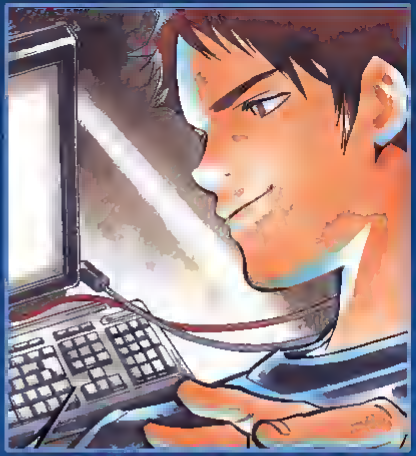
BATTLE START.
NOW, THEN...

S2SCANLATIONS.COM

WEBSITE
S2SCANLATIONS.COM
TWITTER
TWITTER.COM/#!/S2SCANS
FACEBOOK
FACEBOOK.COM/S2SCANS
ONLINE READING
WINGED-MANGA.COM
TUMBLR
S2SCANS.TUMBLR.COM/



KUROSAGI CHAPTER 71

STORY BY: TAKERU NATSUHARA AND ART BY: KUROMARU

TRANSLATOR: BLADEWEAVER
PROOFREADER: OTOME-SAN
EDITORS: YOONA, LILANNE, ANGINKIDUT, ASUNA
QCER: YUKI-CHAN
RAW PROVIDER: PUBLIC

S2SCANS

CHAPTER 71 INTERNET FRAUD IV

HIYAMA YASUHIRO, AGE 42
HE IS THE RINGLEADER OF THE INTERNET-AUCTION FRAUD, 'HINOKI CORPORATION'
DOES HE HAVE ANY PREVIOUS OFFENSES?
WE HAVE YET TO GET A HIT FROM THE INFORMATION RELEASED BY THE PROVIDER.
WELL,
HIS CRIMINAL RECORD IS JUST MISDE-MEANORS

YEAH, BUT...
THAT'S PROGRESS.
AT LEAST WE HAVE OUR OPPONENT'S FACE FROM THE INFORMATION RELEASED BY THE PROVIDER AND AUCTION SPONSOR.
THIS GUY HAS TRIED HIS HAND AT PHISHING,
AND WE DON'T HAVE A CLUE YET AS TO WHICH BANKS AND CARD COMPANIES HE HAS CLAIMED TO REPRESENT.
WE ARE STILL ONLY GROPING IN THE DARK RIGHT NOW.
HOW'S IT GOING?
QUITE WELL, MR. HIYAMA.
.....
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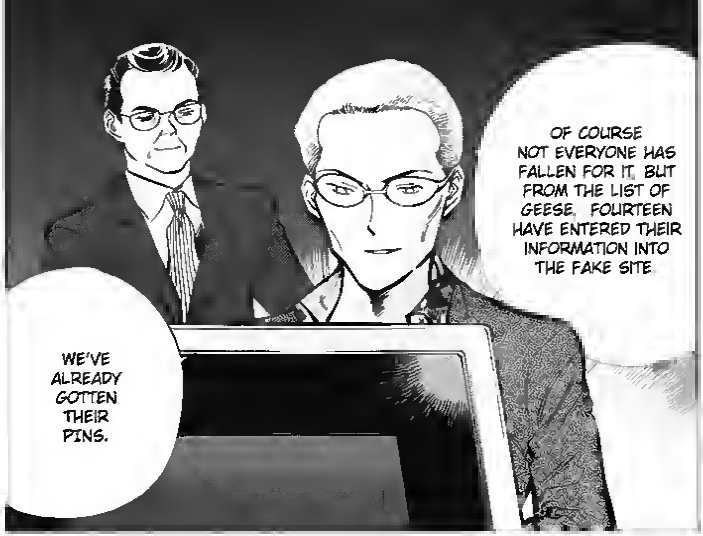
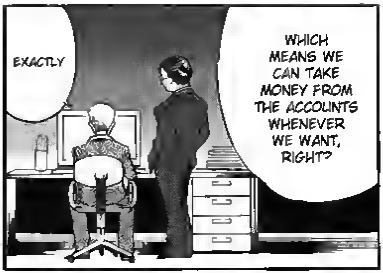
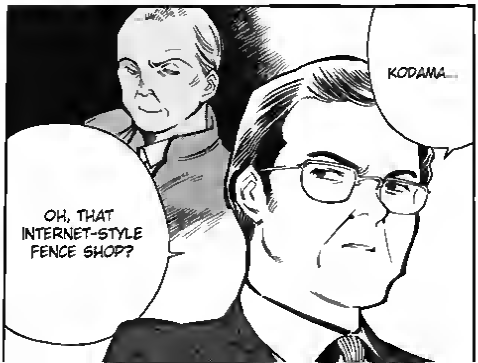

OF COURSE NOT EVERYONE HAS FALLEN FOR IT, BUT FROM THE LIST OF GEESE, FOURTEEN HAVE ENTERED THEIR INFORMATION INTO THE FAKE SITE.
WE'VE ALREADY GOTTEN THEIR PINS.



*TN: NO HONORIFIC LEADS ME TO THINK HE KNOWS KODAMA



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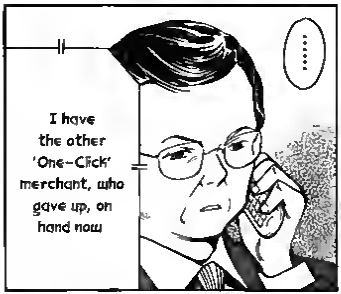

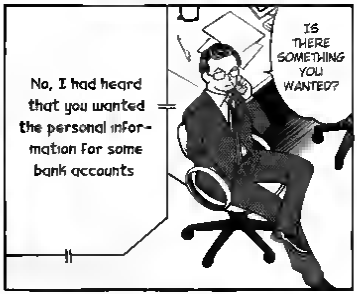

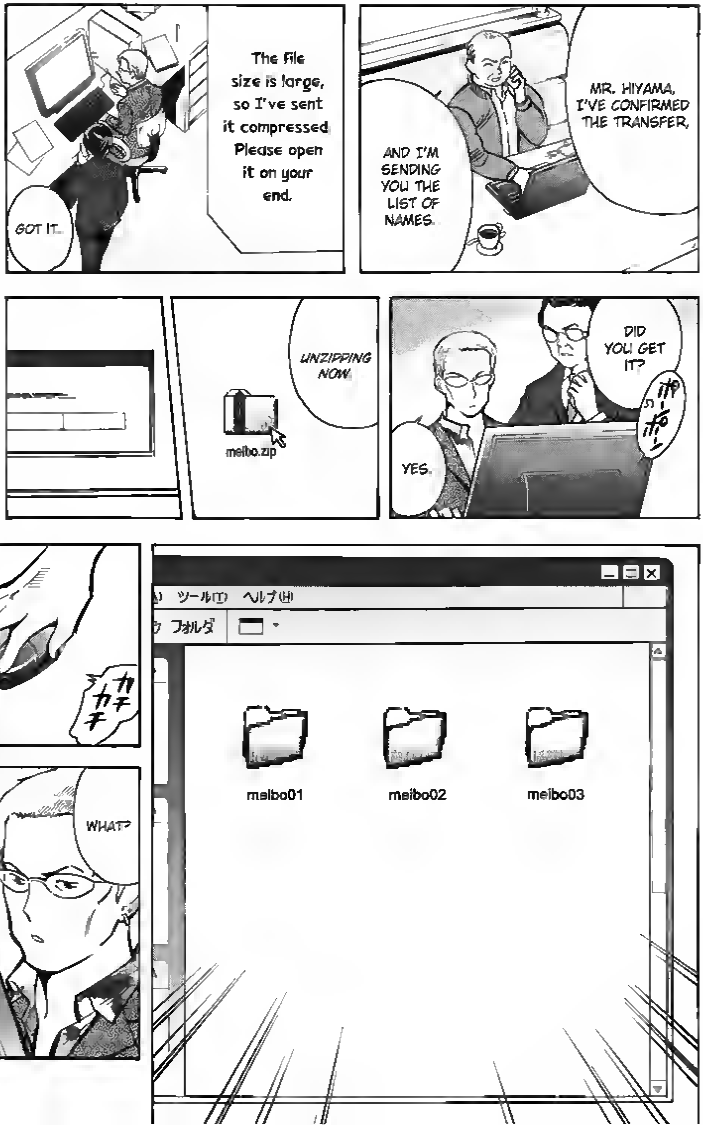
The file size is large, so I've sent it compressed. Please open it on your end.
GOT IT.
MR. HIYAMA, I'VE CONFIRMED THE TRANSFER.
AND I'M SENDING YOU THE LIST OF NAMES.
UNZIPPING NOW.
meibo.zip
DID YOU GET IT?
YES.
カチカチ
WHAT?
ツール(T) ヘルプ(H)
フォルダ
meibo01
meibo02
meibo03

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AND I CAN OPEN THE FIRST TWO FOLDERS JUST FINE, BUT THE THIRD ONE WON'T OPEN.

THAT IS WHEN I UNZIP THE FILE, THE PERSONAL INFORMATION IS IN THREE FOLDERS.

WHAT IS IT?

THE FOLDER MIGHT BE BROKEN... BUT THERE'S NO ERROR MESSAGE

meibo03

IT'S TRUE, THERE'S NO RESPONSE

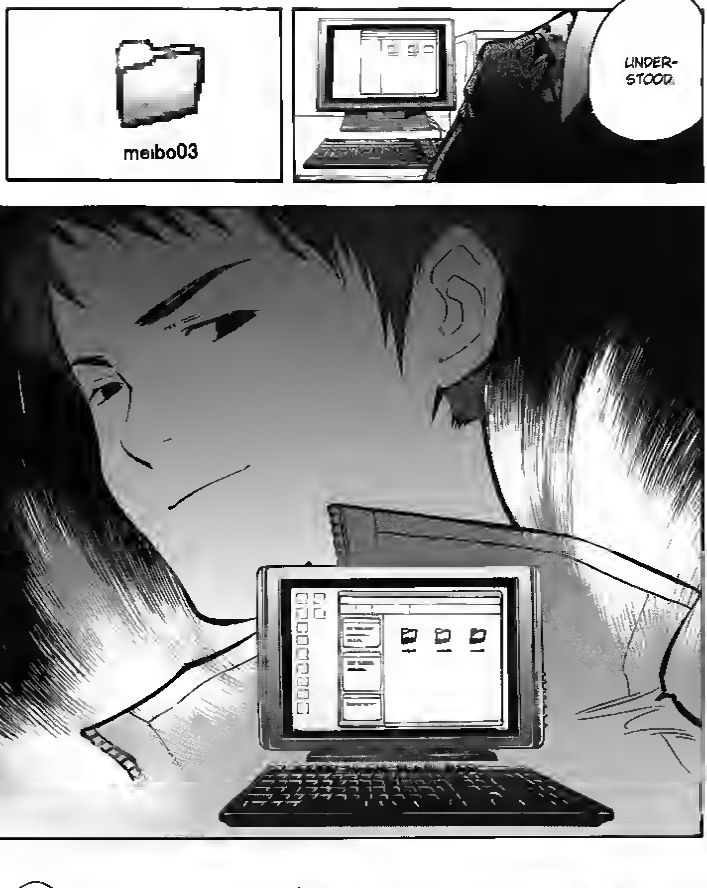
WHICH ACCOUNT SHALL WE USE?

ONE THAT WE GOT FROM ONE-CLICK: TRY HIMAWARI BANK

SINCE I KNOW THEIR PIN, I CAN PULL MONEY FROM THEIR ACCOUNT WHENEVER, VIA INTERNET BANKING.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT GOOSE'S ACCOUNT FROM BEFORE?

AFTER THIS SEND A COMPLAINT TO KODAMA, BUT SAVE THE LIST OF NAMES FOR NOW.


meibo03
UNDER-
STOOD.
CAPTAIN
Kashina, it's me, Ishikura.
Pi-PiPi-Pi-riri
UENO EAST OFFICE

APPARENTLY, A PHISHING E-MAIL WAS JUST REPORTED FROM HIMAWARI BANK
THE BANK PRESIDENT WAS JUST NOTIFIED
HE'S SHOWN HIMSELF?!
A CUSTOMER QUESTIONED THE BANK. IT SEEMS TO BE A FIRST-TIME OCCURRENCE.
KASHINA, YOU SHOULD COME-
I'm on my way!
HUH?
WHAT IS IT?
NO, IT'S JUST . .
YOU CAN'T GET THE MONEY OUT?
NO... THE GOOSE'S ACCOUNT ISN'T RECOGNIZING THE PIN, BUT THE REAL PROBLEM IS...
S2Scanlations.com

A MESSAGE POPPED UP SAYING, 'THERE ARE NO FUNDS.'
OUR BANK'S ACCOUNTS...
NO IDEA...
WHAT? HOW CAN THIS BE—?
MY ACCOUNT HAS BEEN FROZEN!?
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?!
ACCOUNT HOLD...!?

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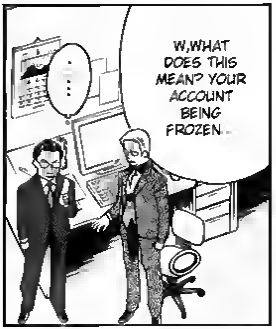
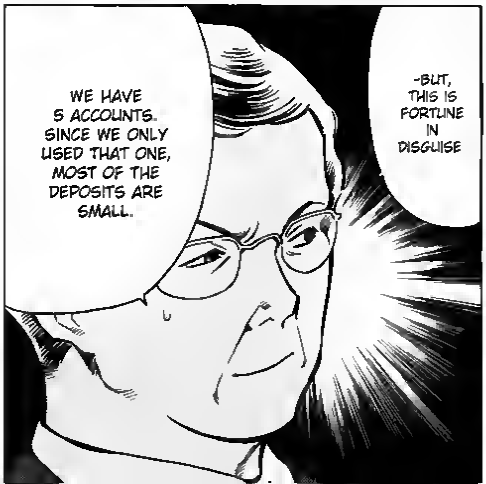
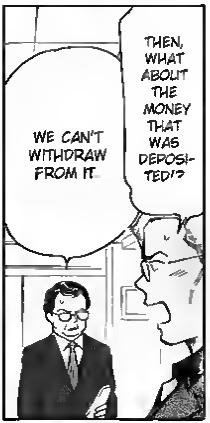
SHOULD ANYONE OFFICIALLY REQUEST THAT AN ACCOUNT BE FROZEN, THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE REQUIRES US TO COMPLY... AND WE, THE BANK, MUST OBEY THIS, SO-
BECAUSE OF THIS, A HOLD HAS BEEN PLACED ON YOUR ACCOUNT, AND THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE HAS BEEN NOTIFIED.







Pururu
Pururu
Pururu
RATHER THAN PRESSURING ANOTHER ACCOUNT, MASHI-
Hello. Is Mr. Hiyama Yasuhiro there?
YES, BUT...
EXCUSE ME FOR CALLING SO SUDDENLY
MY NAME IS SHIBAZAKI, FROM THE EBIHARA BRANCH OF KANA'AKIYAMA CREDIT UNION
Actually... This is hard to say,
The Toushinkin account in your name is being frozen.
WHAT WAS THAT ..?!
An official notice has not come through yet, but it's only a matter of time ~ Originally, we couldn't make this call, but
Because of the amount of money, we couldn't ignore it ... It might be rude of me, but I thought I should call.

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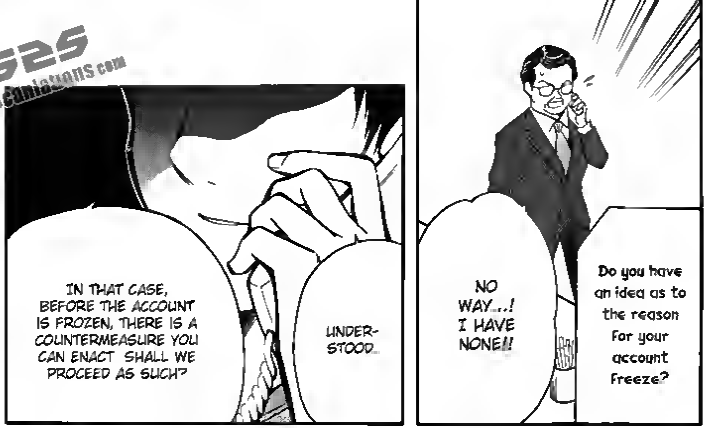
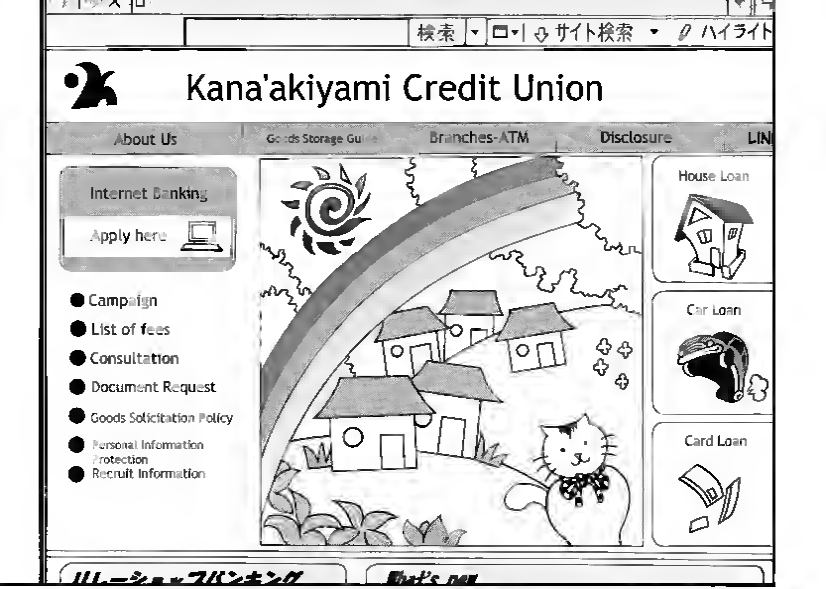
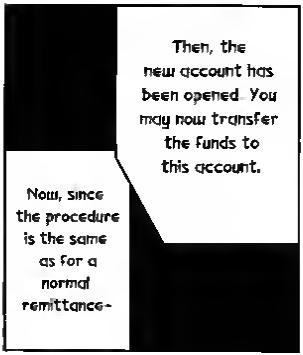
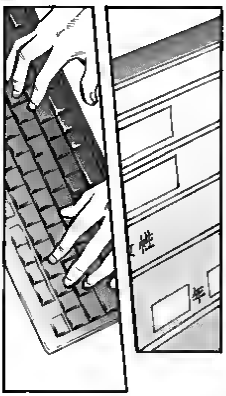

Do you have an idea as to the reason for your account freeze?
NO WAY...! I HAVE NONE!!
UNDERSTOOD.
IN THAT CASE, BEFORE THE ACCOUNT IS FROZEN, THERE IS A COUNTERMEASURE YOU CAN ENACT. SHALL WE PROCEED AS SUCH?


検索
サイト検索
ハイライト
Kana'akiyami Credit Union
About Us
Goods Storage Guide
Branches-ATM
Disclosure
LIN
Internet Banking
Apply here
Campaign
List of fees
Consultation
Document Request
Goods Solicitation Policy
Personal Information Protection
Recruit Information
House Loan
Car Loan
Card Loan

Have you found the Open New Account page?
Then, please follow the directions to make a new account online.


Then, the new account has been opened. You may now transfer the funds to this account.
Now, since the procedure is the same as for a normal remittance-

Accepted



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UNDER-STOOD.

Just as before, you may access the new account just as you did for the old account page. So if you would please enter a new PIN and personal information for the new account...

PAYMENT SOURCE ACCOUNT

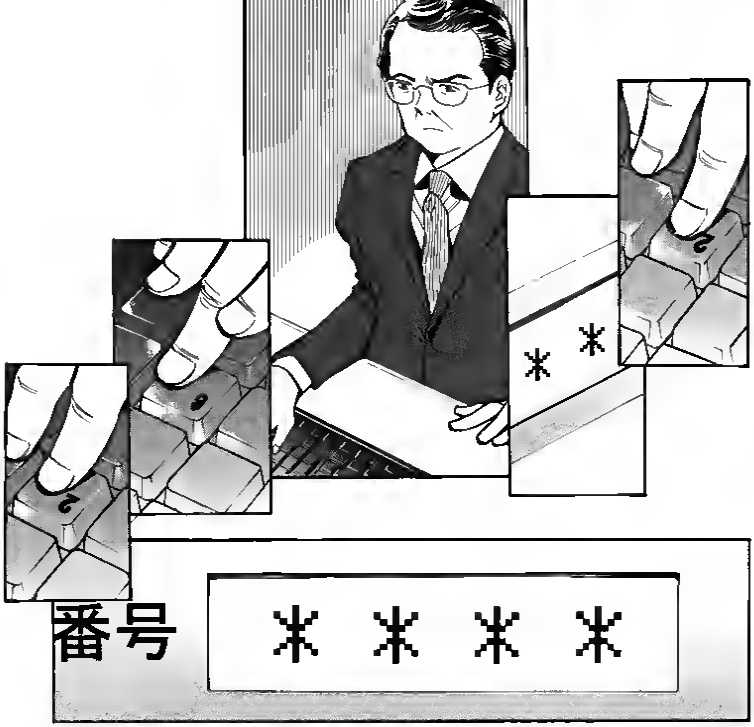
OPENING BANK NAME	KANAKIYAMA CREDIT
BRANCH NAME	ISHIARA BRANCH
TYPE	REGULAR
ACCOUNT NUMBER	111

.....

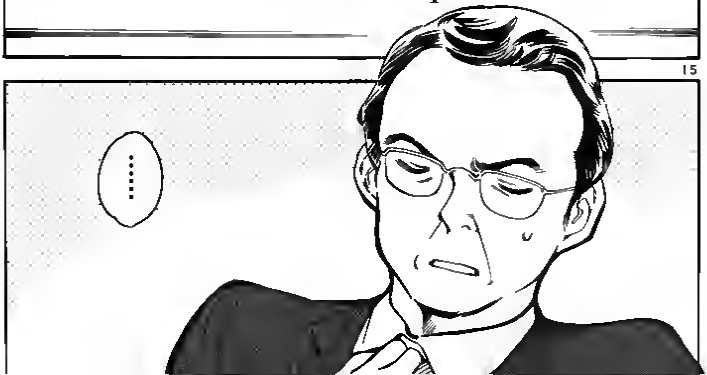
I GOT IT.

ALL THAT'S LEFT IS THE PIN, MR. HIYAMA.

カタ



Transfer Complete



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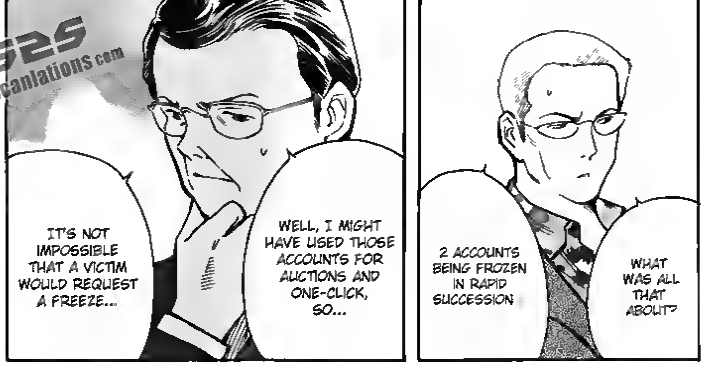
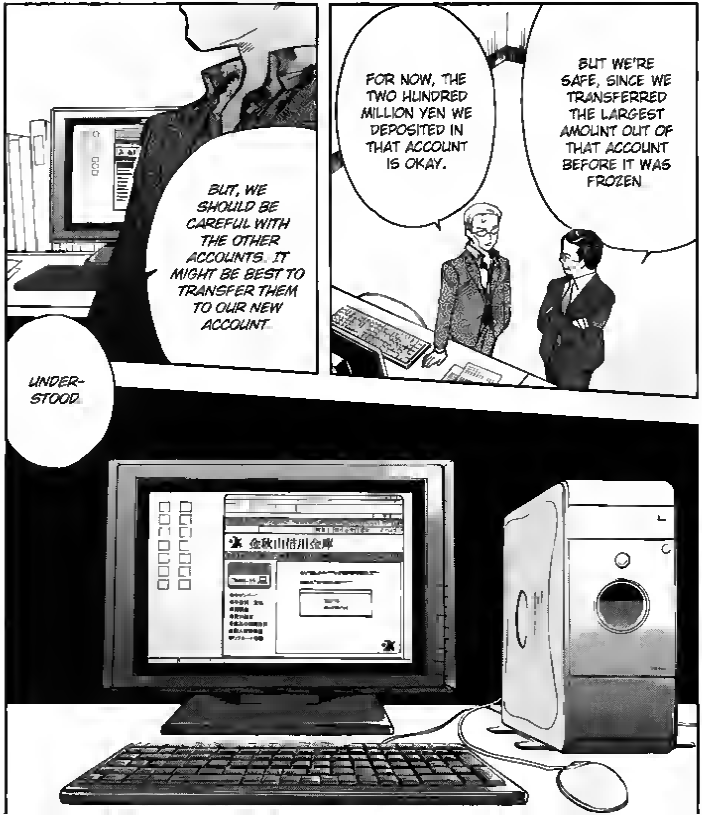
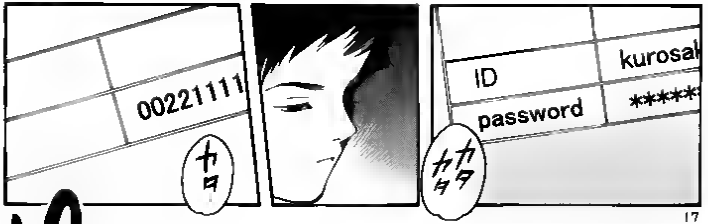

IT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE THAT A VICTIM WOULD REQUEST A FREEZE...
WELL, I MIGHT HAVE USED THOSE ACCOUNTS FOR AUCTIONS AND ONE-CLICK, SO...
2 ACCOUNTS BEING FROZEN IN RAPID SUCCESSION
WHAT WAS ALL THAT ABOUT?


BUT, WE SHOULD BE CAREFUL WITH THE OTHER ACCOUNTS. IT MIGHT BE BEST TO TRANSFER THEM TO OUR NEW ACCOUNT.
FOR NOW, THE TWO HUNDRED MILLION YEN WE DEPOSITED IN THAT ACCOUNT IS OKAY.
BUT WE'RE SAFE, SINCE WE TRANSFERRED THE LARGEST AMOUNT OUT OF THAT ACCOUNT BEFORE IT WAS FROZEN.
UNDER-STOOD.



17

110

Branch Name	Ebihara Branch
Type	Regular
Account Number	00221111
Account Holder	Hiyama Yasuhiro
PIN	6262

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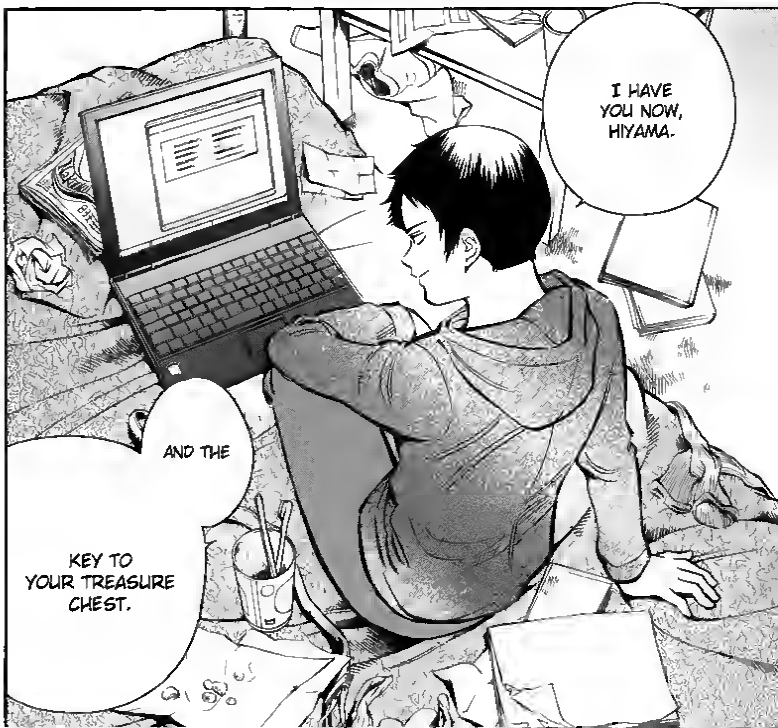
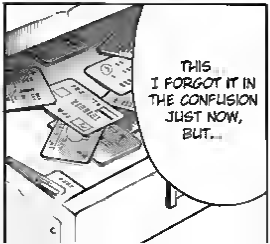
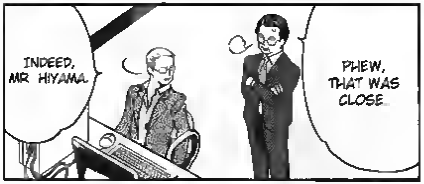
PIN 6262



ARE YOU DONE?
YEP
LETS MAKE NEW ACCOUNTS AND TRANSFER THE FUNDS FROM OUR OTHER ACCOUNTS TOO.
THIS WAY, NO MATTER HOW MANY ACCOUNTS ARE FROZEN, WE'RE FINE.
CHAPTER 72 INTERNET FRAUD V


THIS I FORGOT IT IN THE CONFUSION JUST NOW, BUT...


INDEED, MR. HIYAMA.
PHEW, THAT WAS CLOSE.

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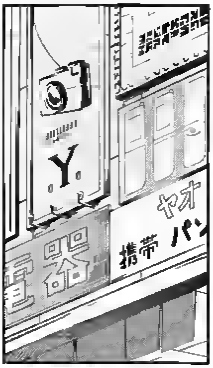
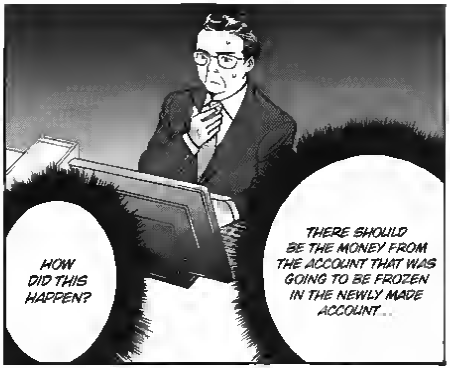
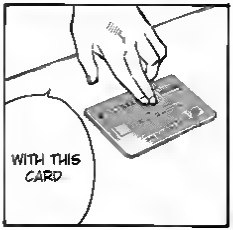
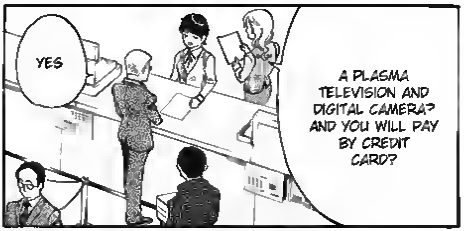
YEAH, LET'S TRY GOING TO A LARGE HOME APPLIANCE STORE.
THE ACCOUNT HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED TO IT, SO WHY DON'T WE TRY IT OUT.
I MADE A FORGED CREDIT CARD FROM A GOOSE'S INFORMATION WE GOT PHISHING. USE IT WHENEVER YOU WANT.
OH, YOU HAD SOMETHING LIKE THIS
I THINK I'LL CHECK THE NEW ACCOUNT..
THE ACCOUNT INFORMATION IS WRONG
THE NEW SHINKIN ACCOUNT ISN'T THERE!?
!?
KANA'AKIYAMA CREDIT UNION
Click

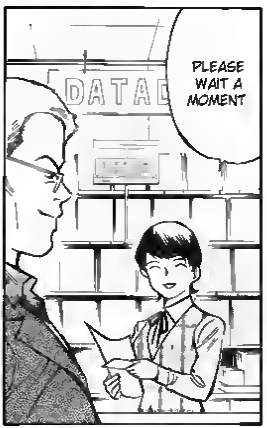

ヤオ
携帯


HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?
THERE SHOULD BE THE MONEY FROM THE ACCOUNT THAT WAS GOING TO BE FROZEN IN THE NEWLY MADE ACCOUNT...


WITH THIS CARD


YES
A PLASMA TELEVISION AND DIGITAL CAMERA? AND YOU WILL PAY BY CREDIT CARD?

.....
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN...?


PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT

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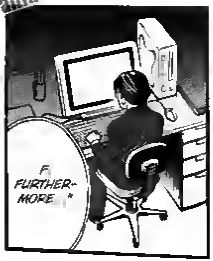
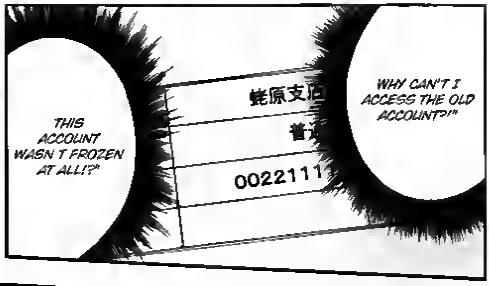
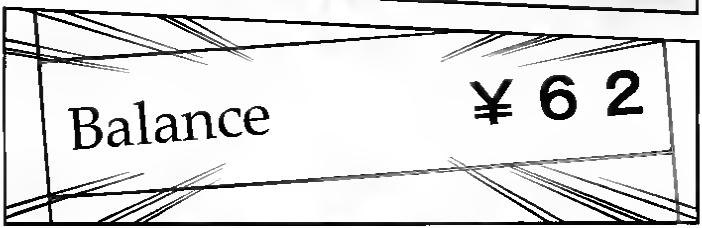
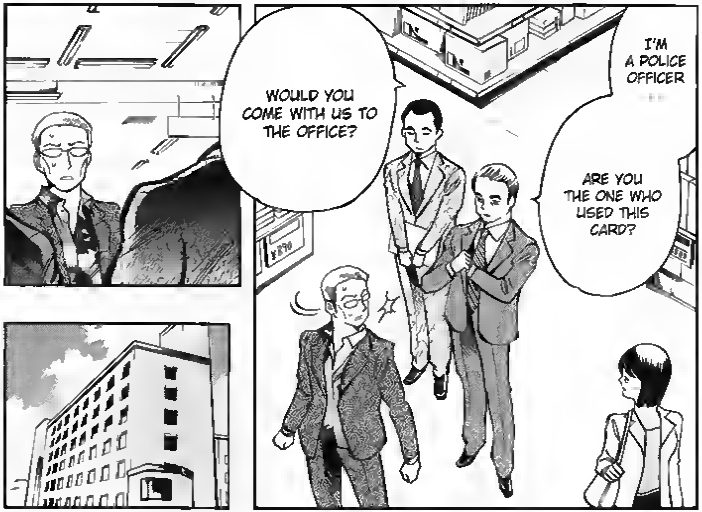
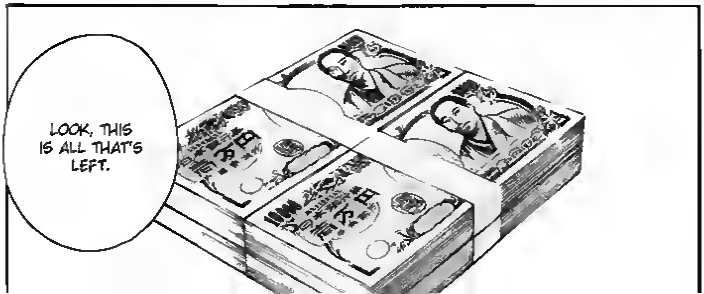






THIS CARD VERIFICATION IS TAKING A LONG TIME


I'M A POLICE OFFICER
ARE YOU THE ONE WHO USED THIS CARD?
WOULD YOU COME WITH US TO THE OFFICE?


LOOK, THIS IS ALL THAT'S LEFT.

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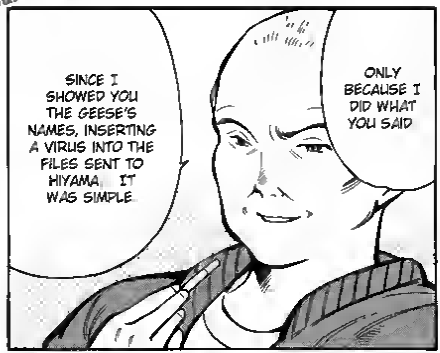
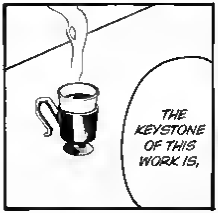
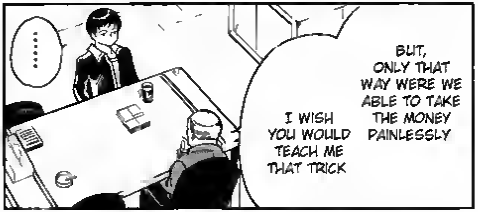

SINCE I SHOWED YOU THE GEESE'S NAMES, INSERTING A VIRUS INTO THE FILES SENT TO HIYAMA... IT WAS SIMPLE.
ONLY BECAUSE I DID WHAT YOU SAID





THEY ARE PROS, BUT THEY WILL FALL FLAT IF YOU GET THEIR PERSONAL NUMBERS OUT OF THEM.
SOMEHOW, GET THE SHIROSAGI TO COUGH UP THE PIN TO THEIR OWN ACCOUNT.. THAT IS THE POINT.
THEREFORE, FIRST... FREEZE AN ACCOUNT THEY HOLD WITH ONLY A SMALL PORTION OF THEIR FUNDS

FOR THE FREEZE, YOU CAN CONFIRM IT, IF YOU GET A VICTIM OF ONE-CLICK TO RAISE AN OFFICIAL COMPLAINT.
.....
THIS FREEZE IS A THREAT.
IT HAS TO BE A REAL DEAL TO BE AN EFFICIENT THREAT.., THEREFORE, YOU REALLY HAVE TO FREEZE IT.
00221111
FROM THERE, IS THE SECOND LEVEL YOU AIM AT THEIR ACCOUNT WITH THE LARGEST SUM OF MONEY.
IMPERSONATE AN EMPLOYEE OF THAT BANK, CALL AND SAY THAT THE ACCOUNT IS GOING TO BE FROZEN
SINCE ONE REALLY HAS BEEN FROZEN, THEY WILL DEFINITELY BELIEVE YOU.
THEN, WHISPER THAT IF THEY MAKE A NEW ACCOUNT AND TRANSFER THE MONEY, YOU WILL BE FINE
AND, THERE'S NOT MUCH TIME, SO DO IT ONLINE.
AND THEN, YOU SEND THE SHIROSAGI THE SAME MAIL

PHARMING, HUH
VIRUS MAIL WILL BE EFFECTIVE ...!
THAT
HOST FILES HAVE THE ABILITY TO CHANGE THE IP ADDRESS TO THE ADDRESS OF THE DESTINATION SITE, IN ORDER TO CONNECT TO THE INTERNET
YEP... IF THAT VIRUS INFECTS THE COMPUTER, YOU CAN MAKE CHANGES TO THE CONTENTS OF THE HOST FILES.
TN: A NUMBER ASSIGNED INDIVIDUALLY TO THE COMPUTER CONNECTED TO THE NETWORK.
Fake IP address
Real IP address
change!
Infected host files
The site you want to go to
THE RESULT IS-
BASICALLY, IF YOU RE-WRITE THE HOST FILES, THE USER MIGHT ENTER THE CORRECT ADDRESS, BUT IN THE HOST FILE, THE IP ADDRESS HAS BEEN CHANGED TO THE WRONG ONE.
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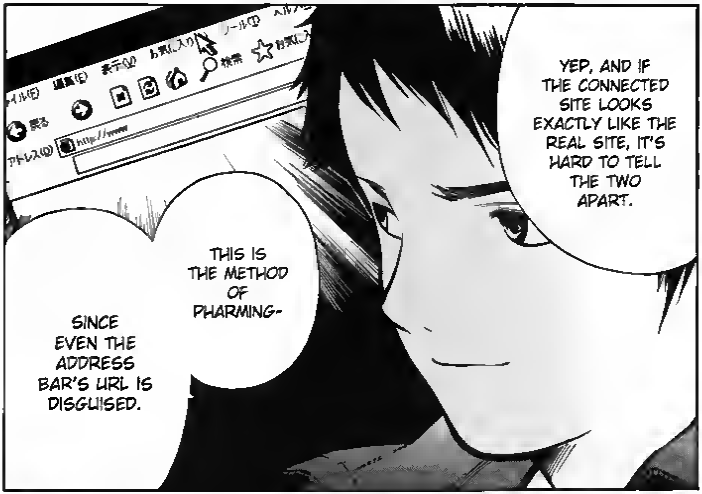
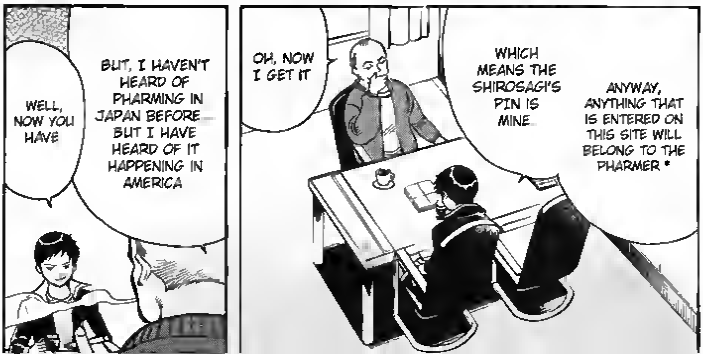
Fake site
Real site
Real IP address
Fake IP address
THEY'LL BE REDIRECTED TO A DIFFERENT SITE.
THE SITE IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM THE ONE THE USER WANTS TO GO TO.


YEP, AND IF THE CONNECTED SITE LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE THE REAL SITE, IT'S HARD TO TELL THE TWO APART.
THIS IS THE METHOD OF PHARMING-
SINCE EVEN THE ADDRESS BAR'S URL IS DISGUISED.

TN: THE PERSON CONDUCTING A PHARMING


WELL, NOW YOU HAVE
BUT, I HAVEN'T HEARD OF PHARMING IN JAPAN BEFORE... BUT I HAVE HEARD OF IT HAPPENING IN AMERICA
OH, NOW I GET IT
WHICH MEANS THE SHIROSAGI'S PIN IS MINE.
ANYWAY, ANYTHING THAT IS ENTERED ON THIS SITE WILL BELONG TO THE PHARMER.*

!
THEY THOUGHT THAT SINCE THEY HAD A FORGED CREDIT CARD, THEY COULD GO ON LIVING BY STEALING FROM THE PREVIOUS OWNER.
AND WITH THAT, THE POLICE WILL BE ON THEIR WAY TO THOSE SHIROSAGI'S PLACES.
HUH?
HEY, THAT'S MINE, THAT MONEY!
BUT THE MOMENT THEY USED THE CARD WAS THEIR DOWNFALL.
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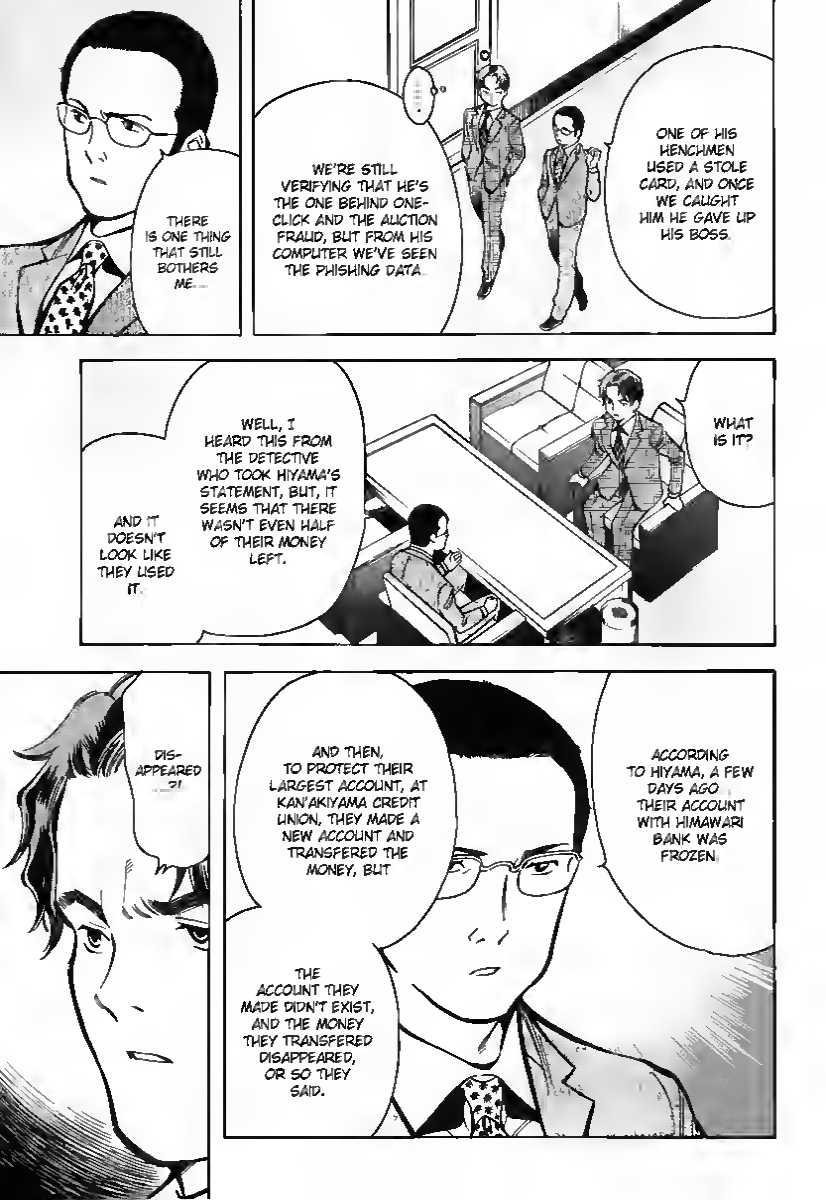
CLASSES AREN'T FREE, SO..
YEP, THIS MORNING
AS SOON AS THE REPORT OF PHISHING CAME OUT, WE CAUGHT THEM EASILY
SO, YOU ARRESTED HIYAMA AND COMPANY
POLICE HEAD-QUARTERS


THERE IS ONE THING THAT STILL BOTHERS ME...
WE'RE STILL VERIFYING THAT HE'S THE ONE BEHIND ONE-CLICK AND THE AUCTION FRAUD, BUT FROM HIS COMPUTER WE'VE SEEN THE PHISHING DATA.
ONE OF HIS HENCHMEN USED A STOLE CARD, AND ONCE WE CAUGHT HIM HE GAVE UP HIS BOSS.
WHAT IS IT?
WELL, I HEARD THIS FROM THE DETECTIVE WHO TOOK HIYAMA'S STATEMENT, BUT, IT SEEMS THAT THERE WASN'T EVEN HALF OF THEIR MONEY LEFT.
AND IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THEY USED IT.
ACCORDING TO HIYAMA, A FEW DAYS AGO THEIR ACCOUNT WITH HIMAWARI BANK WAS FROZEN.
AND THEN, TO PROTECT THEIR LARGEST ACCOUNT, AT KAN'AKIYAMA CREDIT UNION, THEY MADE A NEW ACCOUNT AND TRANSFERED THE MONEY, BUT
THE ACCOUNT THEY MADE DIDN'T EXIST, AND THE MONEY THEY TRANSFERED DISAPPEARED, OR SO THEY SAID.
DIS-APPEARED ...?!

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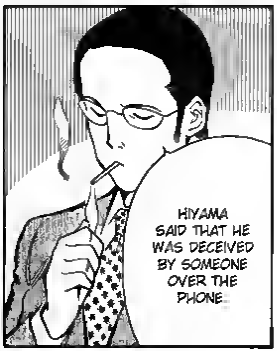
BUT ACCORDING TO THE FINANCE MINISTRY, THE HIMAWARI BANK ACCOUNT WAS INDEED FROZEN, BUT THERE WAS NO PETITION MADE ON THE KAN'AKIYAMA ACCOUNT.
THEY SAID THAT AFTER THE HIMAWARI BANK ACCOUNT WAS FROZEN, THEY RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM SHINKIN THAT THEIR KAN'AKIYAMA ACCOUNT WAS BEING FROZEN.



THAT'S RIGHT, NOW I REMEMBER!!
THAT YOUNG WOMAN, WHERE DID I SEE HER..
SHE'S THAT BRAT'S NEIGHBOR!!

SHE CAME TO RAISE A COMPLAINT AND ASK IF THE INVESTIGATION WERE PROGRESSING
WITH A NOTIFICATION OF THE AUCTION FRAUD..

.....

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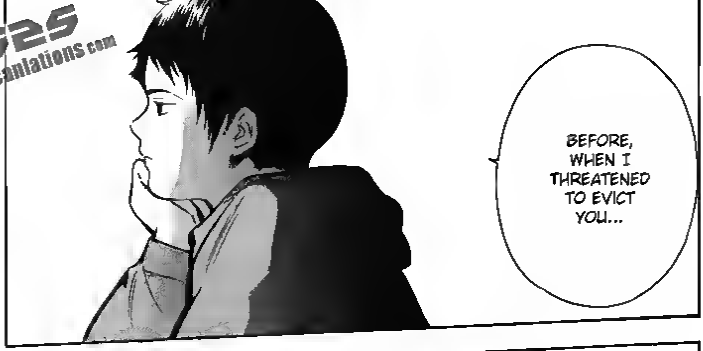

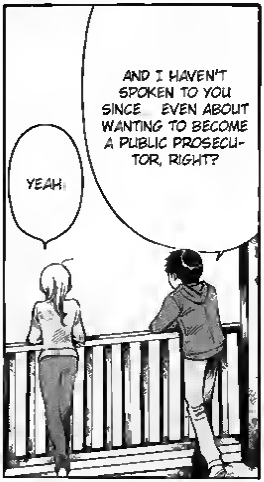

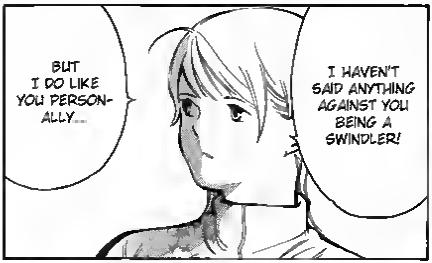

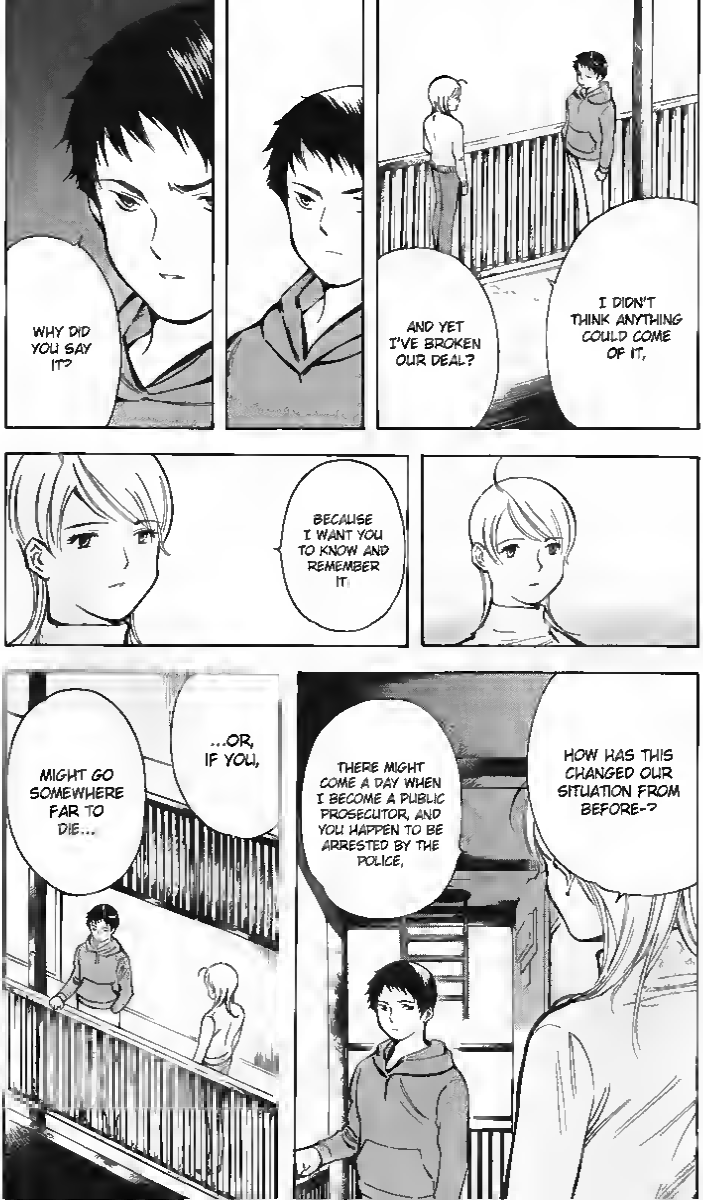
I DIDN'T THINK ANYTHING COULD COME OF IT,
AND YET I'VE BROKEN OUR DEAL?
WHY DID YOU SAY IT?
BECAUSE I WANT YOU TO KNOW AND REMEMBER IT.
HOW HAS THIS CHANGED OUR SITUATION FROM BEFORE-?
THERE MIGHT COME A DAY WHEN I BECOME A PUBLIC PROSECUTOR, AND YOU HAPPEN TO BE ARRESTED BY THE POLICE,
...OR, IF YOU,
MIGHT GO SOMEWHERE FAR TO DIE...

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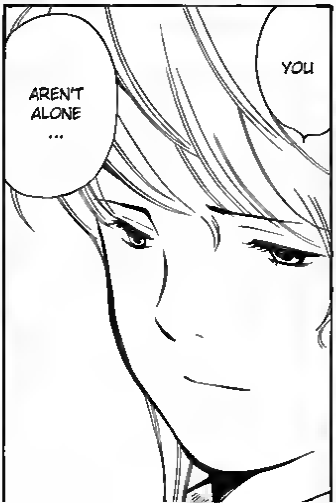

THEN DON'T FALL IN LOVE WITH ME.

THAT IS MY ANSWER.

CHAPTER 73
HOME INDUSTRY FRAUD (FIRST PART)
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...WE HAVE A CHILD WHO'S JUST 2.
AND THEN...
I STARTED SENDING APPLICATIONS FOR WORK THAT I CAN DO FROM HOME
I WANT TO SAY THAT I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE HER IN DAY CARE IF IT CAN BE AVOIDED. BUT PAYING THE RENT IS DIFFICULT ON MY HUSBAND'S INCOME, SO ...
YOU WERE CAUGHT IN WHAT'S CALLED
A HOME INDUSTRY FRAUD.
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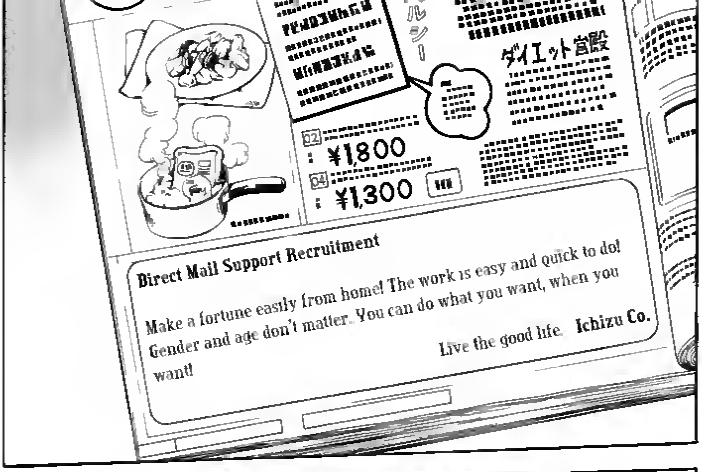
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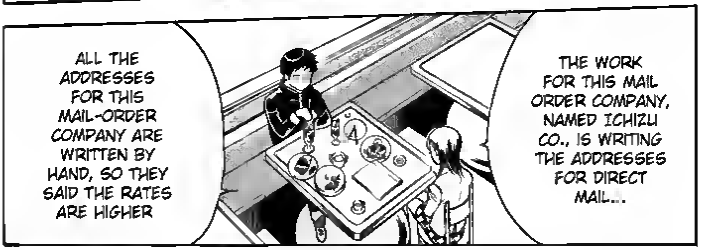
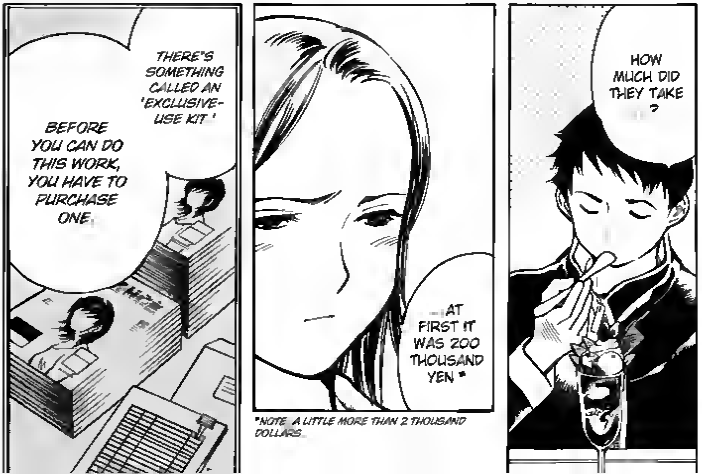
Make a fortune easily from home! The work is easy and quick to do! Gender and age don't matter. You can do what you want, when you want!
Live the good life. Ichizu Co.


ALL THE ADDRESSES FOR THIS MAIL-ORDER COMPANY ARE WRITTEN BY HAND, SO THEY SAID THE RATES ARE HIGHER
THE WORK FOR THIS MAIL ORDER COMPANY, NAMED ICHIZU CO., IS WRITING THE ADDRESSES FOR DIRECT MAIL...


BEFORE YOU CAN DO THIS WORK, YOU HAVE TO PURCHASE ONE.
THERE'S SOMETHING CALLED AN 'EXCLUSIVE-USE KIT.'
AT FIRST IT WAS 200 THOUSAND YEN *
*NOTE: A LITTLE MORE THAN 2 THOUSAND DOLLARS.
HOW MUCH DID THEY TAKE?

ISN'T THAT AN OFF-PUTTING AMOUNT FOR A HOUSEWIFE WHO JUST WANTS ADDITIONAL INCOME?
JUST THAT IS 200 THOU-SAND?
INSIDE THE KIT ARE EXCLUSIVE-USE ENVELOPES AND PRODUCT CATALOGS TO SEND TO CUSTOMERS.
THERE'S ALSO A LIST OF CUSTOMERS
.....
WHY'D YOU FILL OUT THE APPLICA-TION?
EVEN SO, ISN'T THAT EXPEN-SIVE?
I STILL HAD SOME SAVINGS FROM BEFORE THE WEDDING, SO...
4
SO BASIC-ALLY...
THE WORK FOR THIS COMPANY IS MORE THAN JUST ADDRESSING ENVELOPES AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT THEY IMPLIED...
THE PROFIT MARGIN.
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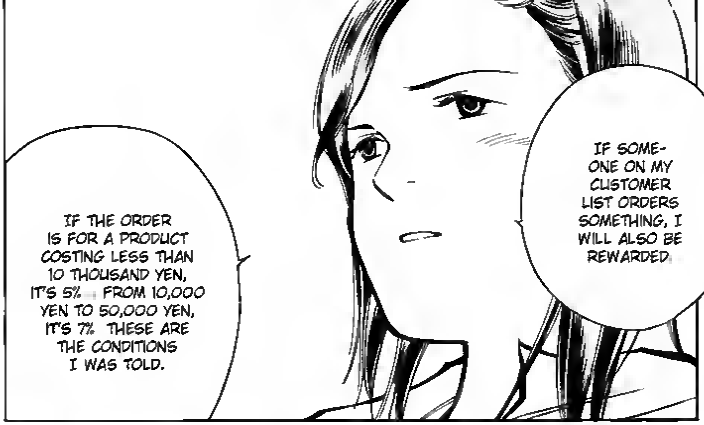
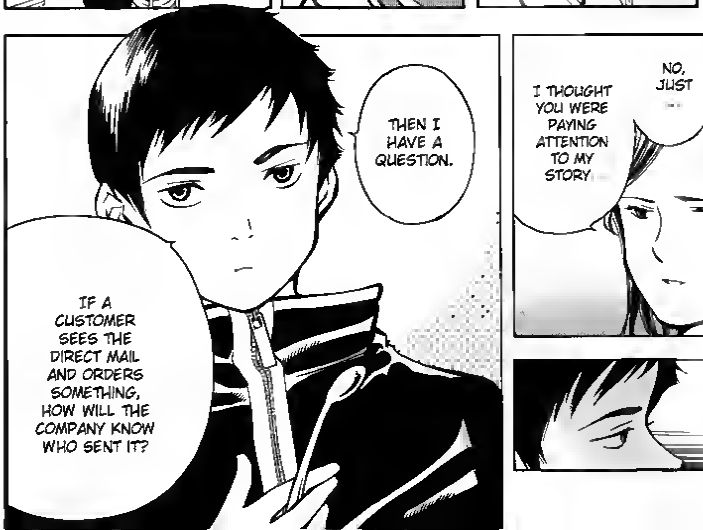
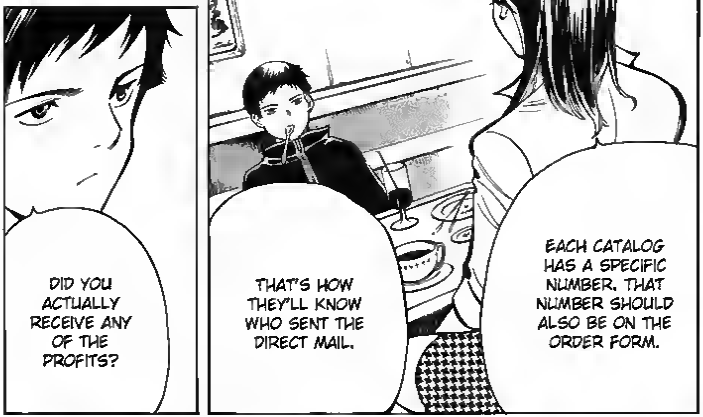

IF SOMEONE ON MY CUSTOMER LIST ORDERS SOMETHING, I WILL ALSO BE REWARDED.
IF THE ORDER IS FOR A PRODUCT COSTING LESS THAN 10 THOUSAND YEN, IT'S 5%... FROM 10,000 YEN TO 50,000 YEN, IT'S 7%. THESE ARE THE CONDITIONS I WAS TOLD.

SO WHAT HAPPENED?
...


THEN I HAVE A QUESTION.
IF A CUSTOMER SEES THE DIRECT MAIL AND ORDERS SOMETHING, HOW WILL THE COMPANY KNOW WHO SENT IT?
I THOUGHT YOU WERE PAYING ATTENTION TO MY STORY...
NO, JUST...


DID YOU ACTUALLY RECEIVE ANY OF THE PROFITS?
THAT'S HOW THEY'LL KNOW WHO SENT THE DIRECT MAIL.
EACH CATALOG HAS A SPECIFIC NUMBER. THAT NUMBER SHOULD ALSO BE ON THE ORDER FORM.

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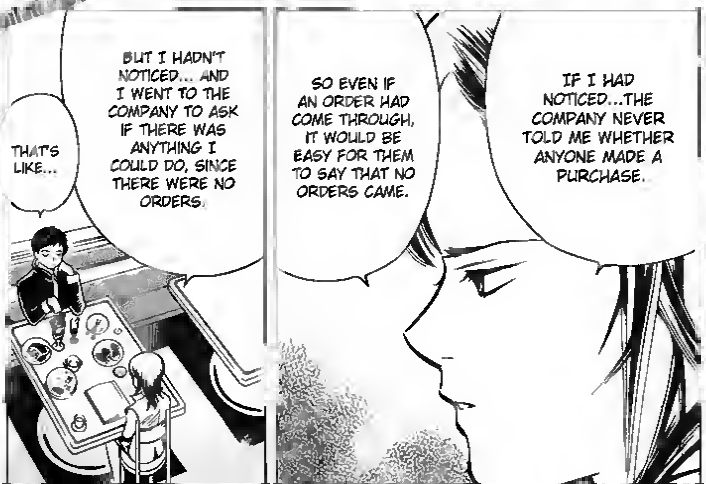
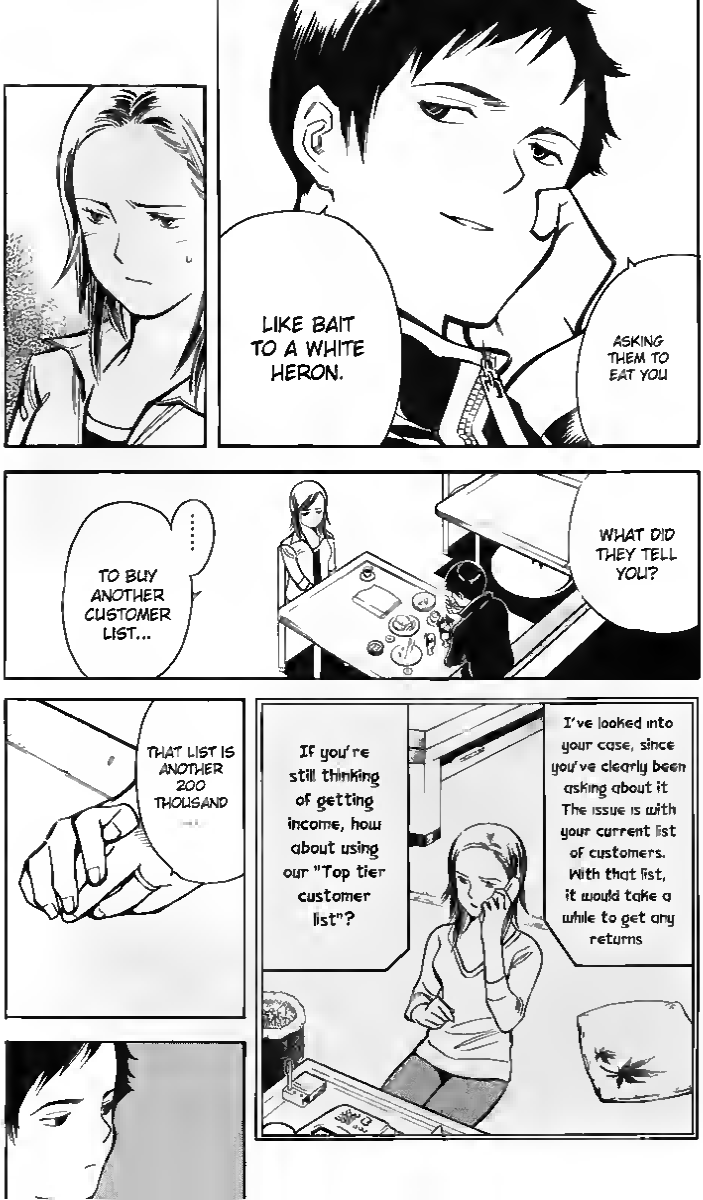
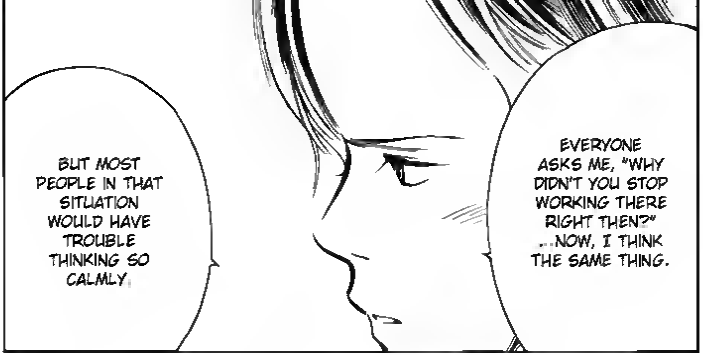
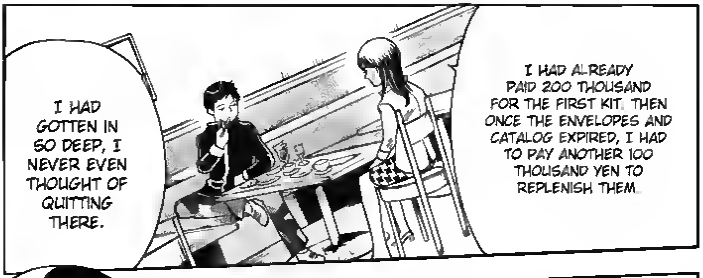
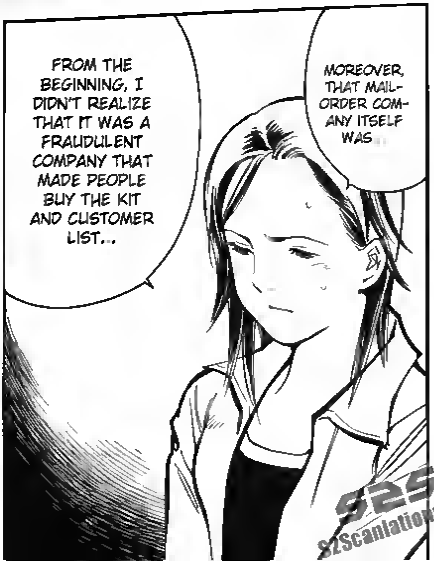

THAT'S LIKE...
BUT I HADN'T NOTICED... AND I WENT TO THE COMPANY TO ASK IF THERE WAS ANYTHING I COULD DO, SINCE THERE WERE NO ORDERS.
SO EVEN IF AN ORDER HAD COME THROUGH, IT WOULD BE EASY FOR THEM TO SAY THAT NO ORDERS CAME.
IF I HAD NOTICED...THE COMPANY NEVER TOLD ME WHETHER ANYONE MADE A PURCHASE.


LIKE BAIT TO A WHITE HERON.
ASKING THEM TO EAT YOU
WHAT DID THEY TELL YOU?
TO BUY ANOTHER CUSTOMER LIST...
THAT LIST IS ANOTHER 200 THOUSAND
If you're still thinking of getting income, how about using our "Top tier customer list"?
I've looked into your case, since you've clearly been asking about it. The issue is with your current list of customers. With that list, it would take a while to get any returns


EVERYONE ASKS ME, "WHY DIDN'T YOU STOP WORKING THERE RIGHT THEN?" ...NOW, I THINK THE SAME THING.
BUT MOST PEOPLE IN THAT SITUATION WOULD HAVE TROUBLE THINKING SO CALMLY.


I HAD ALREADY PAID 200 THOUSAND FOR THE FIRST KIT. THEN ONCE THE ENVELOPES AND CATALOG EXPIRED, I HAD TO PAY ANOTHER 100 THOUSAND YEN TO REPLENISH THEM.
I HAD GOTTEN IN SO DEEP, I NEVER EVEN THOUGHT OF QUITTING THERE.


MOREOVER, THAT MAIL-ORDER COMPANY ITSELF WAS...
FROM THE BEGINNING, I DIDN'T REALIZE THAT IT WAS A FRAUDULENT COMPANY THAT MADE PEOPLE BUY THE KIT AND CUSTOMER LIST...

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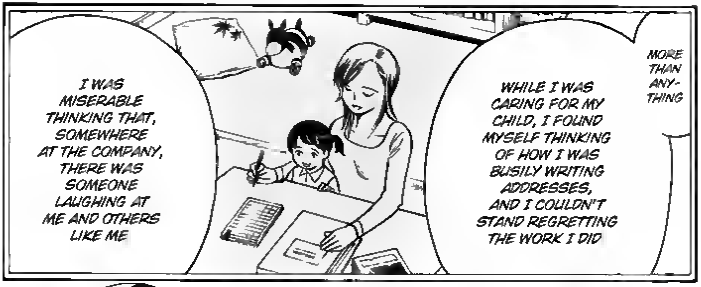
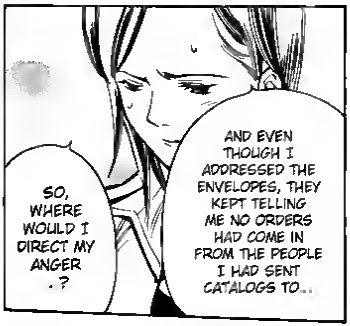
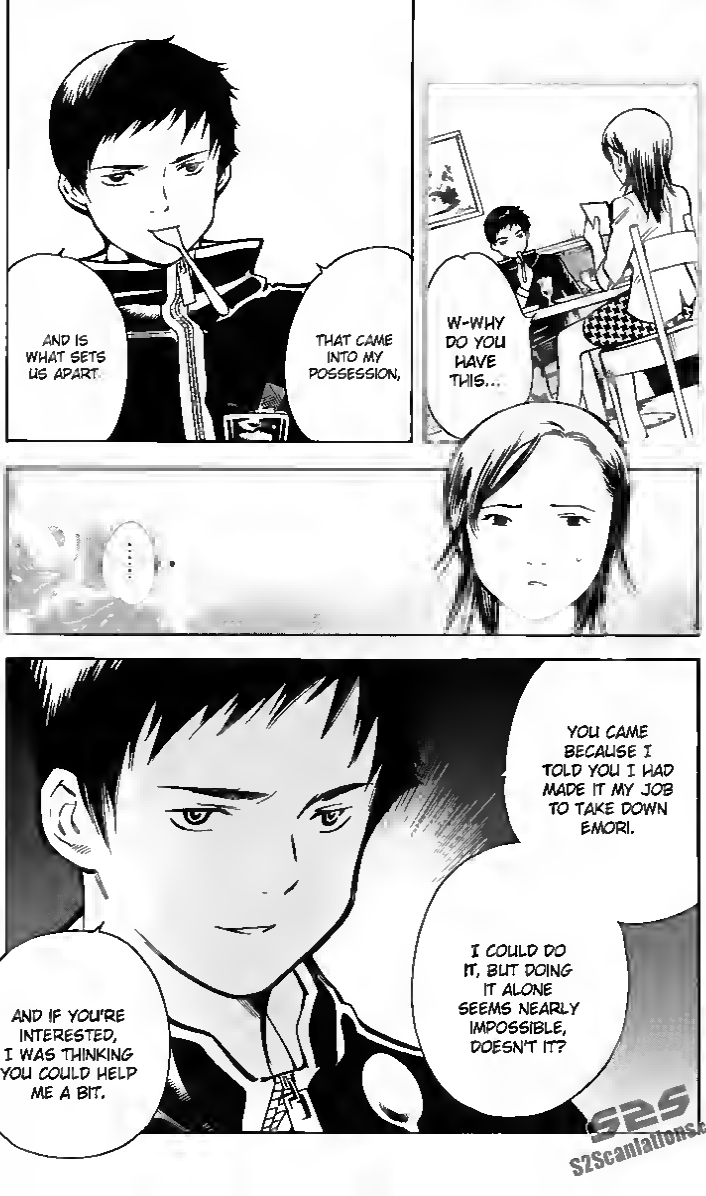

I WAS MISERABLE THINKING THAT, SOMEWHERE AT THE COMPANY, THERE WAS SOMEONE LAUGHING AT ME AND OTHERS LIKE ME
WHILE I WAS CARING FOR MY CHILD, I FOUND MYSELF THINKING OF HOW I WAS BUSILY WRITING ADDRESSES, AND I COULDN'T STAND REGRETTING THE WORK I DID
MORE THAN ANY-THING

THEN,
DO YOU RECOGNIZE THIS FACE?


SO, WHERE WOULD I DIRECT MY ANGER .?
AND EVEN THOUGH I ADDRESSED THE ENVELOPES, THEY KEPT TELLING ME NO ORDERS HAD COME IN FROM THE PEOPLE I HAD SENT CATALOGS TO..

EMORI KIMIO, PRESIDENT OF THE COMPANY THAT FOOLED YOU.

WHO IS THIS?
HE IS


AND IS WHAT SETS US APART.
THAT CAME INTO MY POSSESSION,
W-WHY DO YOU HAVE THIS...
.....
YOU CAME BECAUSE I TOLD YOU I HAD MADE IT MY JOB TO TAKE DOWN EMORI.
I COULD DO IT, BUT DOING IT ALONE SEEMS NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE, DOESN'T IT?
AND IF YOU'RE INTERESTED, I WAS THINKING YOU COULD HELP ME A BIT.
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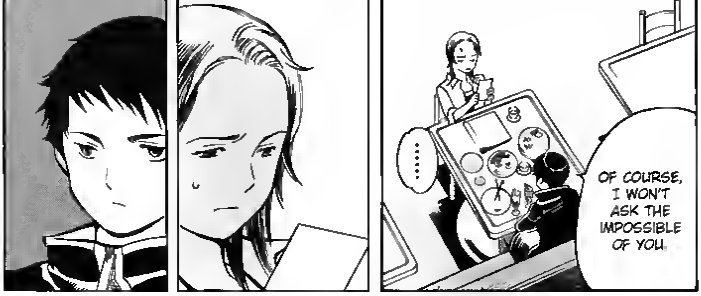
OF COURSE, I WON'T ASK THE IMPOSSIBLE OF YOU.

IF I'M ABLE TO RETURN YOUR MONEY, YOU'LL FEEL BETTER.
I WILL MAKE THAT SHIROSAGI FEEL YOUR PAIN.

UMM, MR KUROSAKI
YOU... THIS IS YOUR JOB?
OKAY THEN
WELL THEN, I'LL BE IN CONTACT.

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WELL,
SURELY , IT'S A CRIME RIGHT?
WHY DO YOU DO THIS .?
I THINK IT'S BETTER,
IF YOU DON'T KNOW AND JUST LET ME HELP
NOTE: A WEEK IN WHICH FOUR NATIONAL HOLIDAYS OCCUR.
BUT, I WANTED TO HANG OU~T
YEP FOR SOME REASON, NO ONE SIGNED UP.
TSURARA-CHAN, DO YOU HAVE WORK DURING GOLDEN WEEK*?

...YEAH.
YOU KNOW HIM?

S2S
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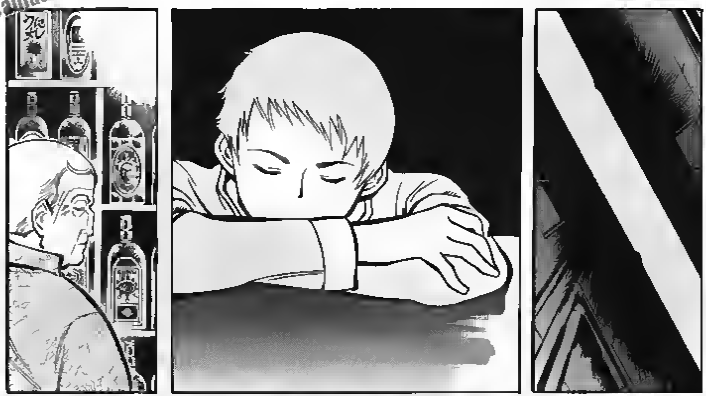
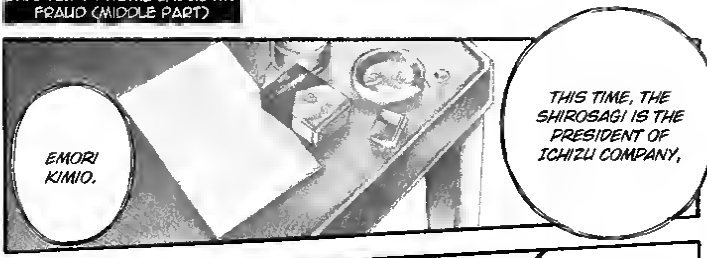


WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I DON'T WANNA GO HOME?
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO GO HOME, STAY AT A HOTEL SOMEWHERE.
IS SOMEONE YOU DON'T WANT ME TO MEET COMING IN?
HMM
YOU WOULD BE OVERSTAYING YOUR WELCOME
IF YOU DON'T LEAVE,
RIDICULOUS...

THEY'RE PAYING A LOT FOR THEM...
EMORI'S MAIL-ORDER COMPANY, ICHIZU COMPANY, IS PERFORMING POORLY, YET THEY'RE PLACING ADS IN MAGAZINES
YOU EVEN GOT ME IN CONTACT WITH A VICTIM.
BUT, HEY, I'M THANKFUL FOR THE WORK YOU GAVE ME... IT'S A GOOD DISTRACTION
S2S
S2Scanlations.com
IT'S JUST BAIT FOR UNWARY GEESE.
Direct Mail Support Recruitment
Make a fortune easily from home! Th
Gender and age don't matter. You ca
THEIR TRUE PURPOSE ISN'T TO SELL PRODUCTS. HAVE YOU READ THE WORDING FOR THEIR 'DIRECT MAIL SUPPORT RECRUITMENT' AD?
SHIROSAGI ARE ALL THE SAME TO ME ...
WELL, WHETHER THEY'RE DILIGENT OR LAZY,
THAT'S CERTAINLY FASTER, BUT...
IT'S NOT FOR FOOLING CUSTOMERS WHO WILL BUY SOMETHING, BUT FOR FOOLING THEIR OWN EMPLOYEES WHO SEND OUT THE DIRECT MAIL.

THEY'RE FOOD.
IT MIGHT BE A LITTLE MESSY ...
BUT, I WILL BE SATISFIED.


EMORI KIMIO.
THIS TIME, THE SHIROSAGI IS THE PRESIDENT OF ICHIZU COMPANY,

AND THE VICTIMS THEY ENSNARE THROUGH THE ADS WILL DEFINITELY BUY THE CUSTOMER LISTS, ENVELOPES, AND SUCH. THE RESULT IS THAT THE COMPANY PROFITS
IN REALITY, THEY ARE USING MAGAZINE ADS TO SOLICIT HOME-BASED WORKERS FOR THEIR DIRECT MAIL SERVICE.
MAIL ORDER ALSO HAS TO BE PROFITABLE, BUT IF YOU'RE NOT SELLING ANY PRODUCTS, IT DOESN'T MATTER ..

HOWEVER,
THAT WAY, HE CAN KEEP GETTING MORE AND MORE MONEY FROM THEM.
EMORI PREFERS TO HAVE PLENTY OF CUSTOMER LISTS TO SELL TO HIS VICTIMS.

!
EVEN IF THERE IS A SET NUMBER OF CUSTOMER LISTS, CONTACTING A SHIROSAGI IS EASY....

I DON'T NEED A NECKTIE ...
CHAPTER 74
HOME INDUSTRY FRAUD (MIDDLE PART)
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Mail Order Company
"Ichizu Co " President
Emori Kimio
RESTAURANT
T/N: HE'S INTENTIONALLY BEING FLIPPANTLY CASUAL
UM. YOU EMORI KIMIO?
4
AH, THANKS FOR COMING. I'M EMORI.
SORRY FOR BEING LATE.
I'M OZAKI. I CALLED YOU YESTERDAY.

WELL, IT MIGHT BE ABRUPT, BUT HERE IS
AWFULLY YOUNG FOR A ROSTER AGENT, AREN'T YOU?
A SAMPLE CUSTOMER LIST.
JUST THIS MUCH.
HOW MUCH IS IT?
I THINK IT WOULD BE EASY TO SELL
SINCE WE SELL DIRECTLY FROM THE MERCHANT, IT HASN'T BEEN TOUCHED.
THIS IS THE PRICE,
YEAH, WELL
FIFTY THOUSAND YEN, HUH? STUPIDLY CHEAP.*

5

TN: OR ABOUT $500 IN AMERICAN FUNDS

BASICALLY,
AND THE CONDITIONS ARE ?
THIS IS THE PRICE.
SHOULD YOU AGREE TO THESE CONDITIONS,
MR EMORI, YOU'LL BE USING THAT LIST TO SELL YOUR PRODUCTS, RIGHT?
FOR MAIL ORDERS, I MEAN.
THEREFORE, SINCE THE PRICE OF THE CUSTOMER LIST IS LOW, MY CONDITION IS THAT YOU WON'T RECEIVE ANY OF THE MARGIN.
THAT'S RIGHT.
SO WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS, IF WE GET AN ORDER FROM ANYONE ON THIS LIST, YOU WILL ALSO RECEIVE A FIXED PERCENTAGE OF THE PROFIT?
SUCH A DEMAND
S2Scanlations.com

WELL, I COULD EXPLAIN IT TO YOU.
I ALWAYS DO IT THIS WAY...
WHY ARE YOU DOING IT THAT WAY?
THAT'S... IT'S FINE TO THINK THAT WAY, BUT,
.....
IT'S NOT A PROBLEM OF GETTING A LARGE QUANTITY OF ORDERS.
DEPENDING ON THE MARGIN RATE... GETTING THE CUSTOMER LIST AT THIS PRICE MIGHT BE ADVANTAGEOUS.
7
SINCE WE CAN'T DISCUSS CONCRETE MATTERS HERE
WELL THEN, LET'S CONTINUE THIS DISCUSSION ONCE WE'RE AT THE OFFICE
AH, RIGHT. COULD WE POSTPONE THAT?
HOW SHALL WE FORMALIZE THE MARGIN AGREEMENT?

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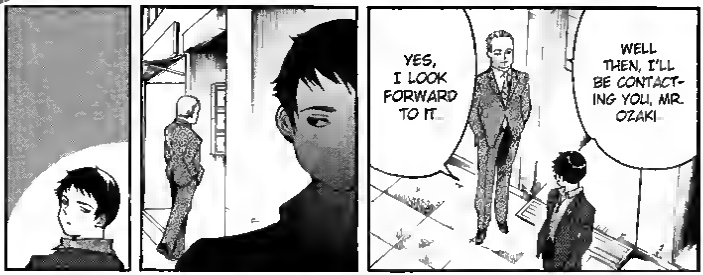
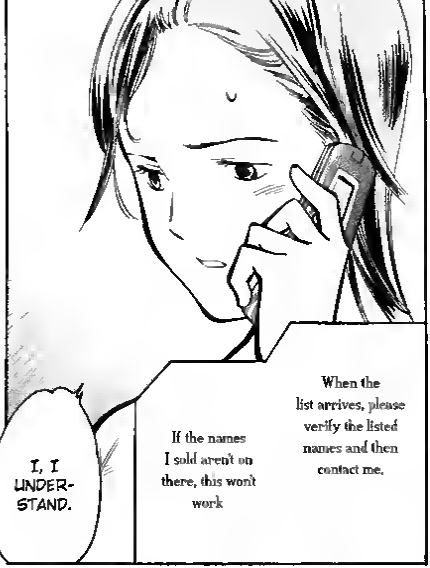
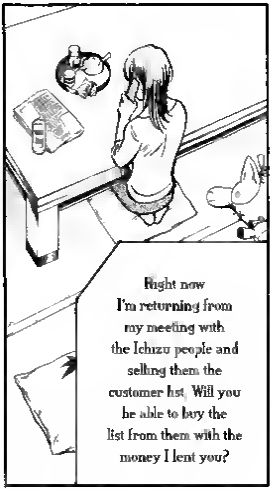
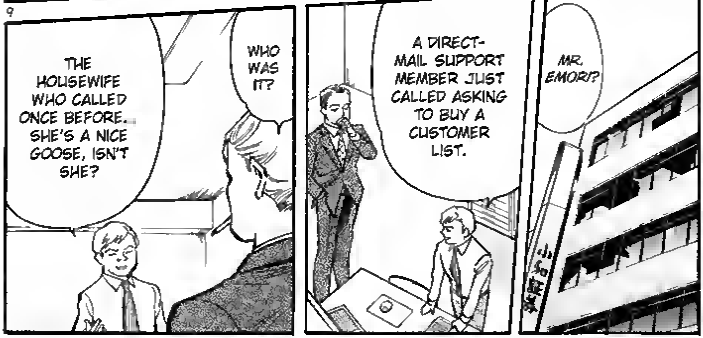



I, I UNDER-STAND.
If the names I sold aren't on there, this won't work
When the list arrives, please verify the listed names and then contact me.


Right now I'm returning from my meeting with the Ichizu people and selling them the customer list. Will you be able to buy the list from them with the money I lent you?

9


THE HOUSEWIFE WHO CALLED ONCE BEFORE. SHE'S A NICE GOOSE, ISN'T SHE?
WHO WAS IT?
A DIRECT-MAIL SUPPORT MEMBER JUST CALLED ASKING TO BUY A CUSTOMER LIST.
MR. EMORI?

SHE'S BOUGHT A LIST BEFORE?
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THIS IS PERFECT.
I JUST GOT A NEW LIST. SEND IT TO HER
YES, SIR.
S2S
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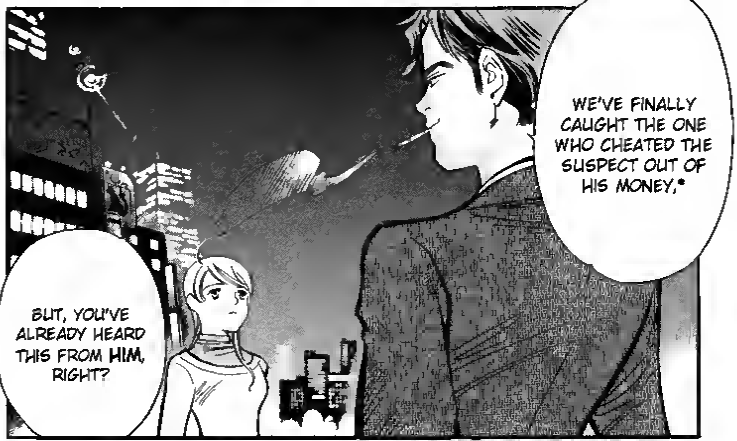
YOU ACTUALLY WAITED UNTIL MY SHIFT ENDED, HUH.
MR. DETECTIVE.



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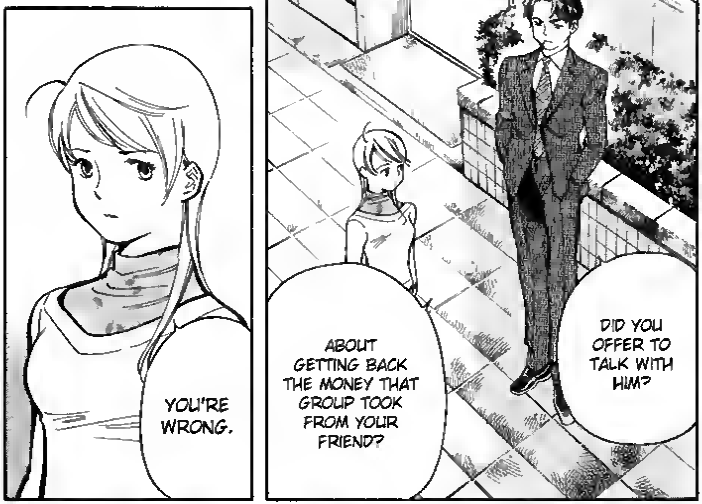
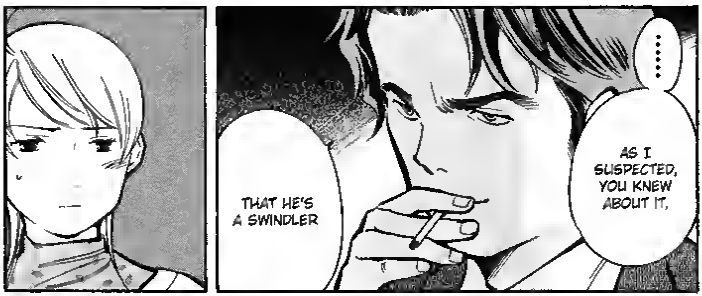
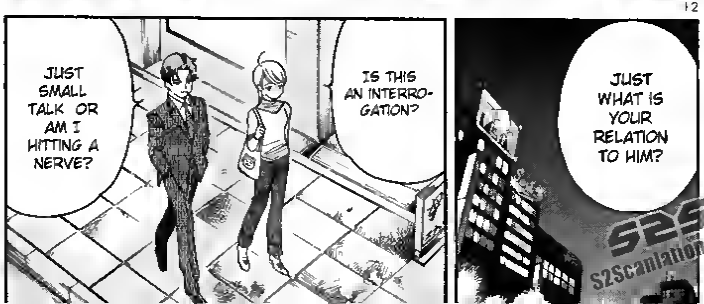
*TN: THEY DIDN'T ACTUALLY CATCH THIS CRIMINAL.







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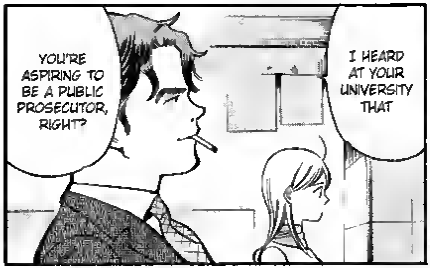
WE'RE JUST "LANDLORD AND TENANT."
HE THINKS SO TOO.


I HEARD AT YOUR UNIVERSITY THAT
YOU'RE ASPIRING TO BE A PUBLIC PROSECUTOR, RIGHT?

.....

WE MAY EVEN BECOME COWORKERS AT SOME POINT.
IN LIGHT OF THAT, I LISTENED TO YOU, BUT,

YOU INVESTI-GATED THAT TOO!?
IT'S UNU-SUAL FOR A WOMAN TO ASPIRE TO THAT

I'M LOOKING FOR ANY USEFUL INFORMATION ON THAT SWINDLER SO I CAN ARREST HIM
YOU WOULD BE COOPERATING WITH ME IF YOU TOLD ME SOMETHING THAT WOULD HELP ME IN MY INVESTIGATION, WOULDN'T YOU?
S2S
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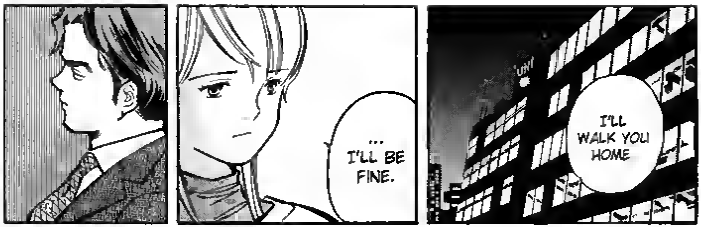
THAT WOULD BE A LITTLE...
WHY?
AFTER ALL, I'M STILL JUST A CITIZEN.
BUT YOU WANT TO BE A PUBLIC PROSECUTOR, RIGHT?
FOR SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO BE A PUBLIC PROSECUTOR,

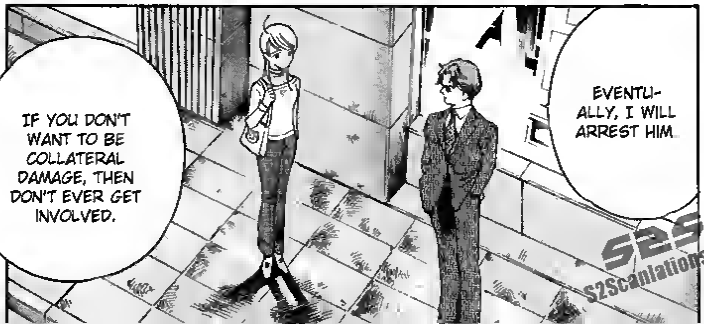
WHY
DO YOU HOLD SPECIAL FEELINGS FOR A SWINDLER?
IS
HE'S ...
PITIFUL AND ALONE ...
ARE YOU KINDRED SPIRITS?
PERHAPS WE ARE

IF YOU THINK LIKE THAT, DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN DO YOUR WORK PROPERLY AND REMAIN OBJECTIVE?
BUT THOSE ARE TWO DIFFERENT THINGS
THEY ARE THE SAME.
16
EVEN IF YOU WERE TO SAVE HIM, THAT SORT OF THING CAN WORK
SINCE HE PROBABLY HAS NO DESIRE TO BE SAVED.

WOULD YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT?
HOW
IMPOS-SIBLE!
SOMEDAY, SURELY
WE ARE THE SAME KIND OF PERSON

YOU ARE NOT 'THE SAME'...
HE IS ONE WHO BRINGS CHAOS WHERE THERE IS ORDER.





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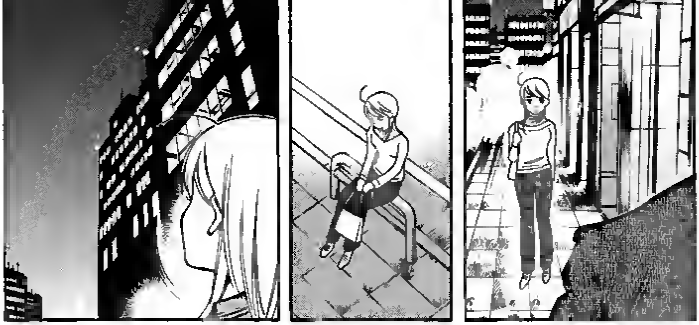

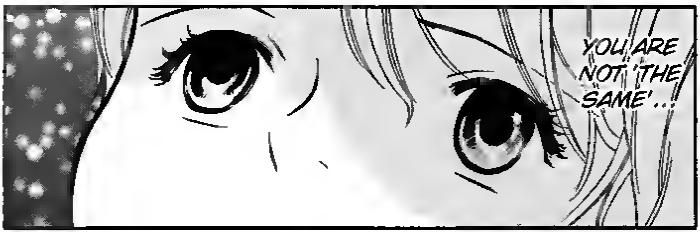
YOU ARE NOT THE SAME...

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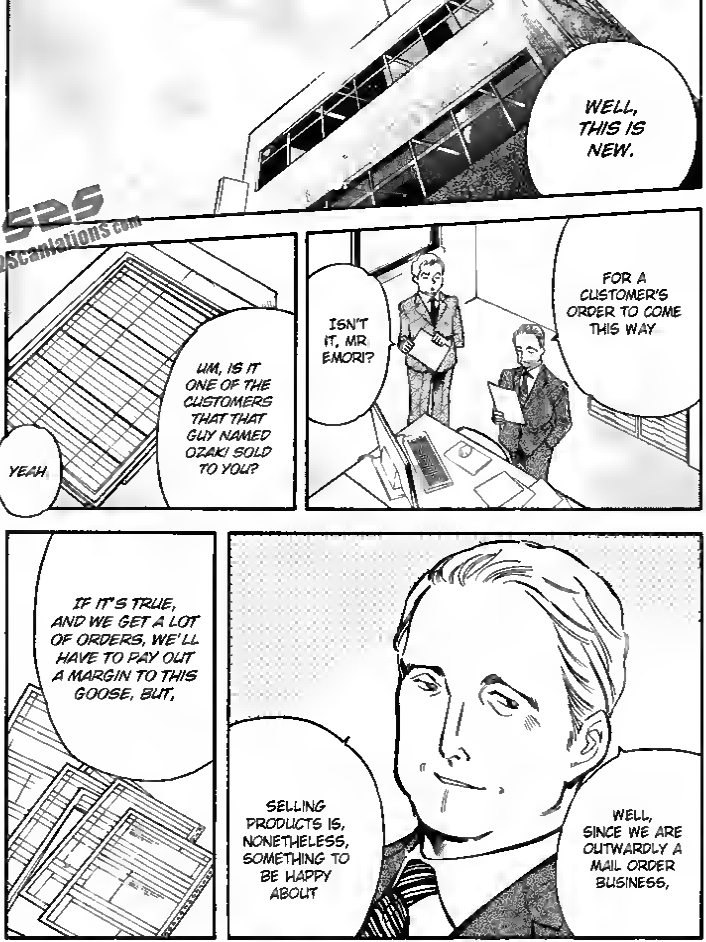
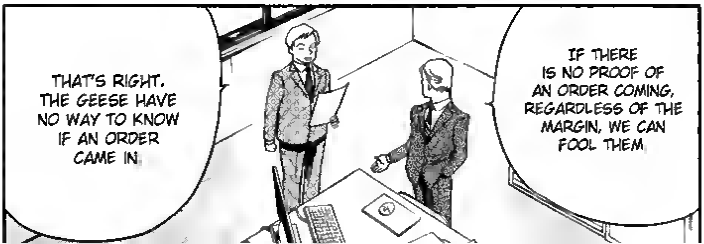

WELL, THIS IS NEW.
FOR A CUSTOMER'S ORDER TO COME THIS WAY
ISN'T IT, MR. EMORI?
UM, IS IT ONE OF THE CUSTOMERS THAT THAT GUY NAMED OZAKI SOLD TO YOU?
YEAH.
IF IT'S TRUE, AND WE GET A LOT OF ORDERS, WE'LL HAVE TO PAY OUT A MARGIN TO THIS GOOSE, BUT,
WELL, SINCE WE ARE OUTWARDLY A MAIL ORDER BUSINESS,
SELLING PRODUCTS IS, NONETHELESS, SOMETHING TO BE HAPPY ABOUT

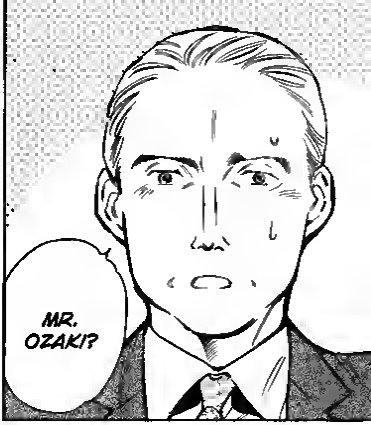

IF THERE IS NO PROOF OF AN ORDER COMING, REGARDLESS OF THE MARGIN, WE CAN FOOL THEM.
THAT'S RIGHT. THE GEESE HAVE NO WAY TO KNOW IF AN ORDER CAME IN.

IF THEY CAN, MANY ORDERS WILL COME.

THIS IS A CLEAR GAIN.

G'MORNIN'!*
*TN: HE IS USING A VERY INFORMAL DIALECT HERE.
EMORI HERE?
WHO MIGHT YOU BE?
TELL EMORI THAT
THE ROSTER MERCHANT OZAKI IS HERE.

CHAPTER 75 HOME INDUSTRY FRAUD (ENDING PART)



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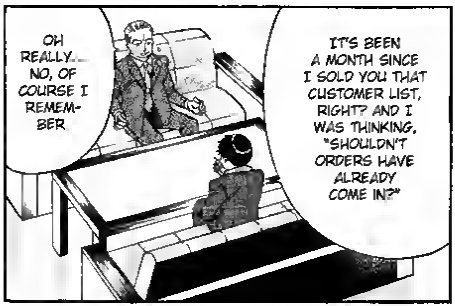
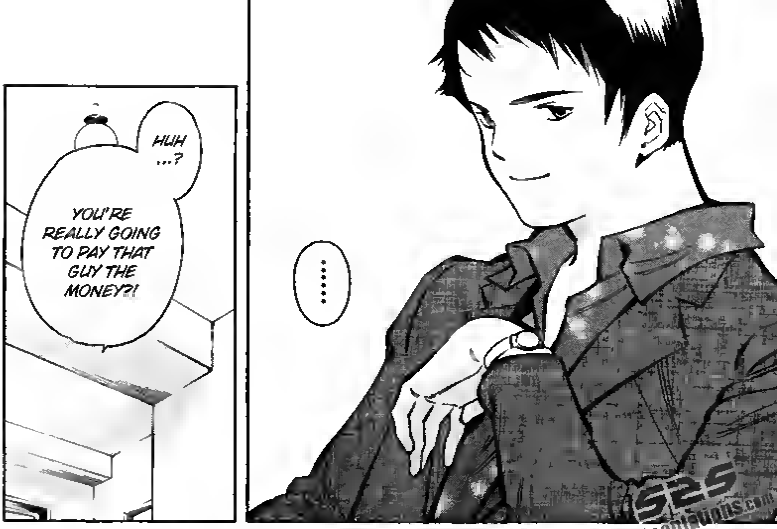

OH REALLY... NO, OF COURSE I REMEMBER.
IT'S BEEN A MONTH SINCE I SOLD YOU THAT CUSTOMER LIST, RIGHT? AND I WAS THINKING, "SHOULDN'T ORDERS HAVE ALREADY COME IN?"

ABOUT THAT .. THE NUMBERS HAVEN'T COME UP YET, BUT,
WELL THEN? HAVE ORDERS COME IN?
ALL RI-GHT.
IF YOU COME AGAIN TOMORROW, I WILL HAND OVER THE MONEY FROM THE TOTALS OF THE ORDERS.
3
I UNDER-STAND. THEN... I'LL GET THE NUMBERS RIGHT NOW.
PLEASE WAIT HERE A LITTLE WHILE.
IF YOU COULD, I'D LIKE THE MONEY TODAY...
ACTUALLY... I KINDA NEED THE MONEY, SO...



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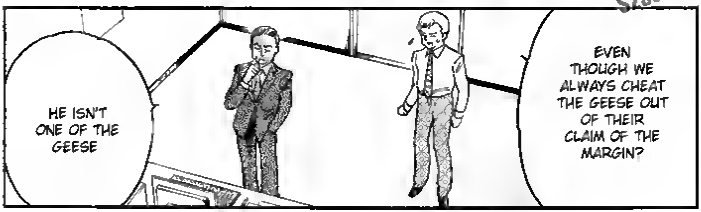

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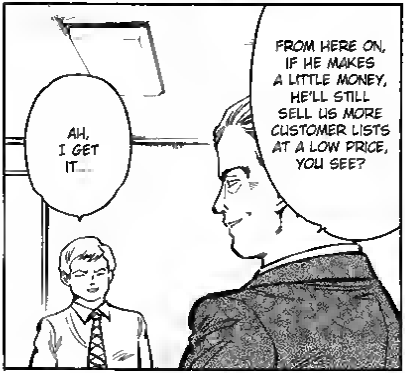

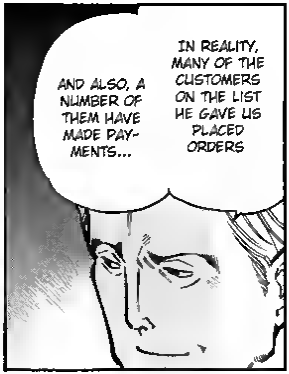

MOREOVER, HE DOESN'T KNOW THE MOST IMPORTANT THING...
WE HOLD ALL THE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR MAIL ORDERS.
HE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO CALCULATE THE ACTUAL AMOUNT OF MARGIN HE SHOULD BE GETTING, ESPECIALLY IF I ALWAYS UNDERSTATE THE ORDERS THAT HAVE COME IN.
5
SIGH...
WELL THEN, HERE IS A CHART OF THIS MONTH'S COLLECTED ORDERS.
SIX CASES... THAT SEEMS A LITTLE SMALL, HUH.
THERE ARE MORE IN OUR OVERALL TOTALS, BUT
THIS IS ALL THE ORDERS WE'VE RECEIVED FROM THE CUSTOMERS ON THE ROSTER YOU GAVE US
THE MARGIN COMES TO 9800 YEN *
*IN ABOUT 1100

HMM...
WELL, THAT'S HOW IT IS, HUH.
WE MAY STILL GET ORDERS, SO PLEASE CONTACT US AGAIN.
I LOOK FORWARD TO IT.
click
EXCUSE ME.
WHAT IS IT...?
DESPITE CALLING OVER AND OVER, I'VE BEEN FLAT-OUT TURNED DOWN, SO I'VE COME TO ASK IN PERSON.

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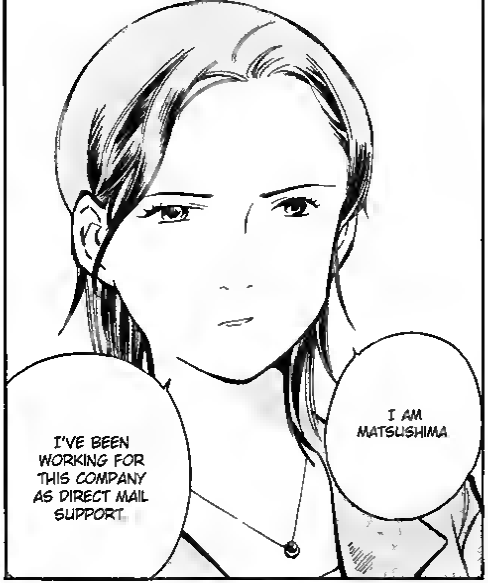
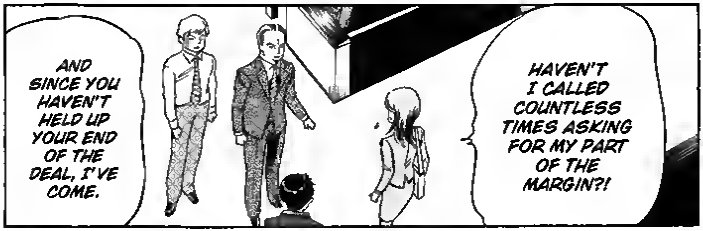
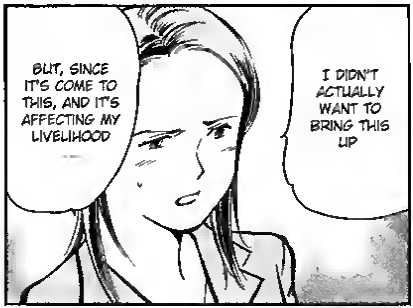
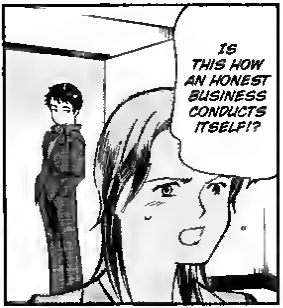
YEAH... HOW DID YOU-
DON'T PLAY DUMB!

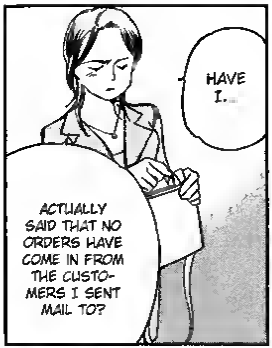

I AM MATSUSHIMA
I'VE BEEN WORKING FOR THIS COMPANY AS DIRECT MAIL SUPPORT.


HAVEN'T I CALLED COUNTLESS TIMES ASKING FOR MY PART OF THE MARGIN?!
AND SINCE YOU HAVEN'T HELD UP YOUR END OF THE DEAL, I'VE COME.

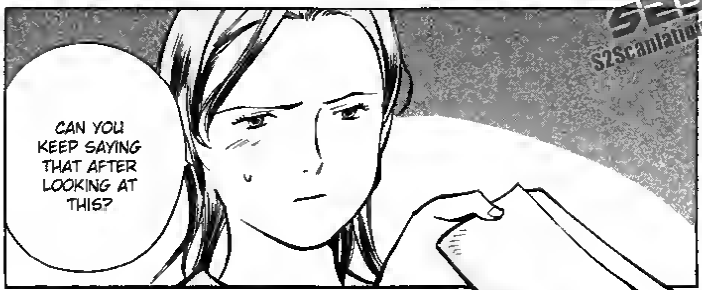
7


I DIDN'T ACTUALLY WANT TO BRING THIS UP
BUT, SINCE IT'S COME TO THIS, AND IT'S AFFECTING MY LIVELIHOOD


IS THIS HOW AN HONEST BUSINESS CONDUCTS ITSELF!?



EVEN IF YOU GO ON LIKE THAT, I CAN'T PAY YOU FOR ORDERS THAT HAVEN'T COME IN THAT'S WRITTEN IN THE CONTRACT.
PLEASE CALM DOWN, MA'AM..



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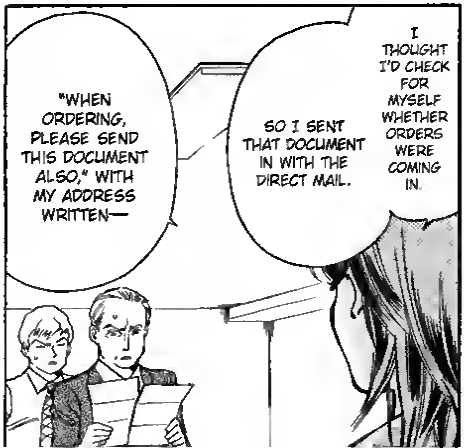
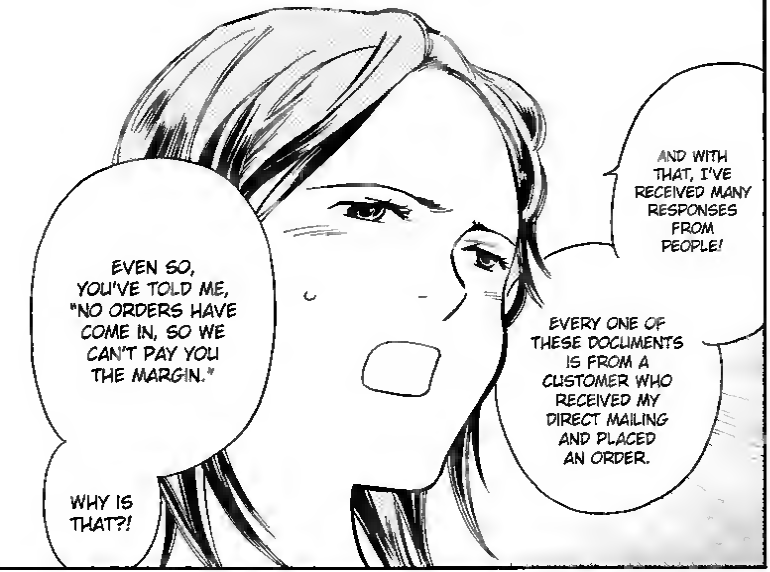
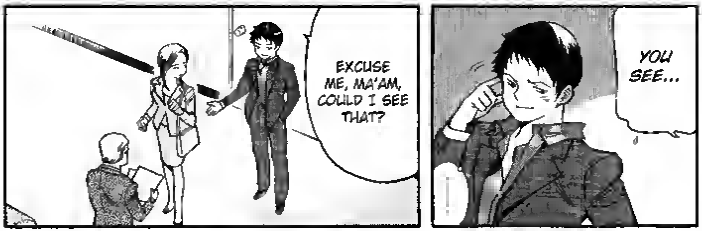
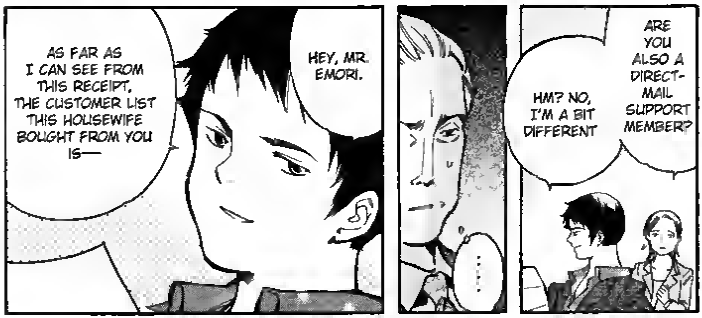

"WHEN ORDERING, PLEASE SEND THIS DOCUMENT ALSO," WITH MY ADDRESS WRITTEN—
SO I SENT THAT DOCUMENT IN WITH THE DIRECT MAIL.
I THOUGHT I'D CHECK FOR MYSELF WHETHER ORDERS WERE COMING IN.


AND WITH THAT, I'VE RECEIVED MANY RESPONSES FROM PEOPLE!
EVERY ONE OF THESE DOCUMENTS IS FROM A CUSTOMER WHO RECEIVED MY DIRECT MAILING AND PLACED AN ORDER.
EVEN SO, YOU'VE TOLD ME, "NO ORDERS HAVE COME IN, SO WE CAN'T PAY YOU THE MARGIN."
WHY IS THAT?!


EXCUSE ME, MA'AM, COULD I SEE THAT?
YOU SEE...


AS FAR AS I CAN SEE FROM THIS RECEIPT, THE CUSTOMER LIST THIS HOUSEWIFE BOUGHT FROM YOU IS—
HEY, MR. EMORI.
HM? NO, I'M A BIT DIFFERENT
ARE YOU ALSO A DIRECT-MAIL SUPPORT MEMBER?

S2S
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APPARENTLY THE CUSTOMER LIST I GAVE TO YOU..
THERE ARE NAMES I REMEMBER ON SIGHT, AND THEY'RE ALL ONE AFTER THE OTHER.
.....
IF SO,
THERE COULDN'T BE ONLY SIX CASES.

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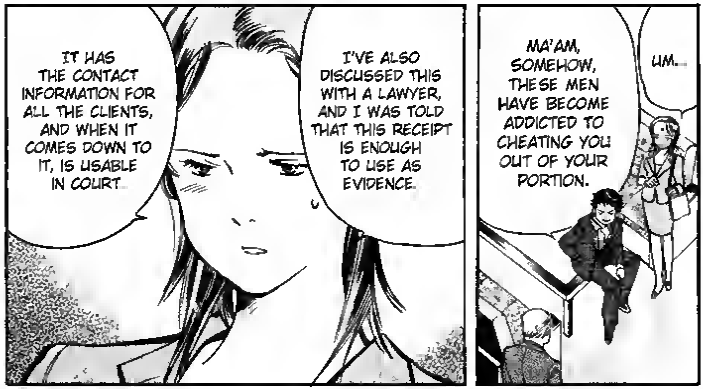
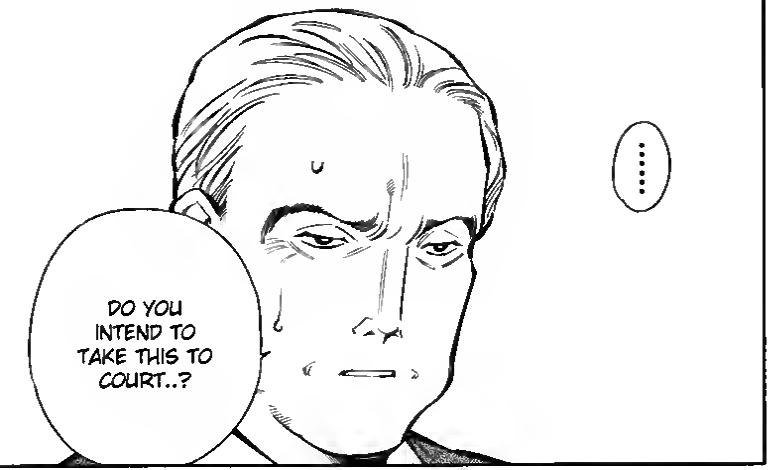
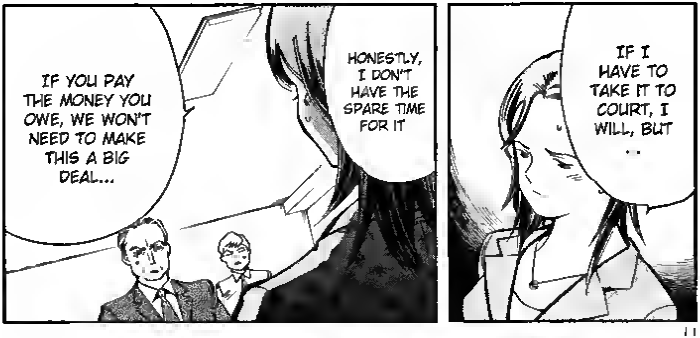

I'VE ALSO DISCUSSED THIS WITH A LAWYER, AND I WAS TOLD THAT THIS RECEIPT IS ENOUGH TO USE AS EVIDENCE.
IT HAS THE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ALL THE CLIENTS, AND WHEN IT COMES DOWN TO IT, IS USABLE IN COURT.
UM...
MA'AM, SOMEHOW, THESE MEN HAVE BECOME ADDICTED TO CHEATING YOU OUT OF YOUR PORTION.


DO YOU INTEND TO TAKE THIS TO COURT..?
.....

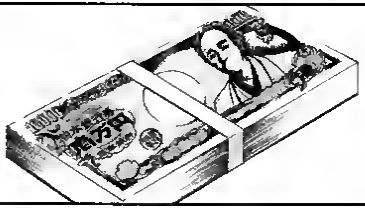

IF YOU PAY THE MONEY YOU OWE, WE WON'T NEED TO MAKE THIS A BIG DEAL...
HONESTLY, I DON'T HAVE THE SPARE TIME FOR IT
IF I HAVE TO TAKE IT TO COURT, I WILL, BUT ..

SO EVEN IF YOU PAY THE MARGIN, IT'S NOT REALLY A LOSS, RIGHT?
BUT, IT'S ONLY FOR THESE ORDERS THAT HAVE ACTUALLY COME IN.
IN THAT CASE-
.....
THERE YOU HAVE IT, MR. EMORI

I THINK IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO WRAP THIS UP AMICABLY.

.....

THEY GOT OUR MONEY TO US FAIRLY QUICKLY, DIDN'T THEY?



THOSE TWO...

IF THEY HAD SOMEHOW GOTTEN US GOING IN CIRCLES, OUR BLUFF MIGHT HAVE BEEN FOUND OUT, BUT...

GOING TO COURT WAS JUST A BLUFF, BUT SINCE THEY WERE GUILTY OF SOMETHING, THEY DECIDED IT WAS BETTER TO JUST HAND OVER THE MONEY.

I THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO DIE, THOUGH ...

YOU DID BETTER THAN I EXPECTED.

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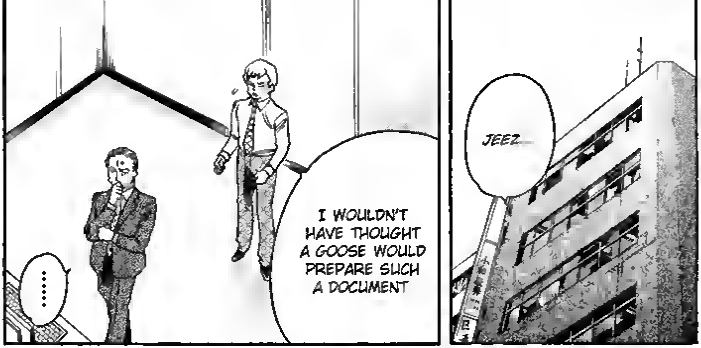
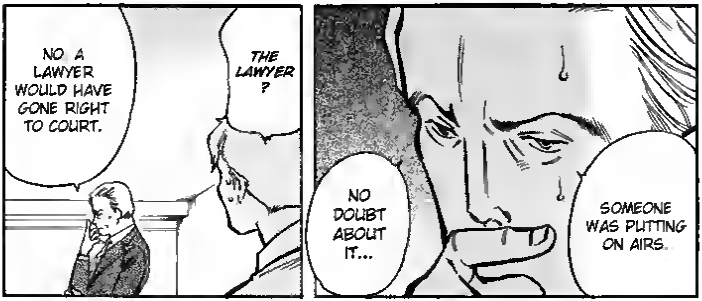
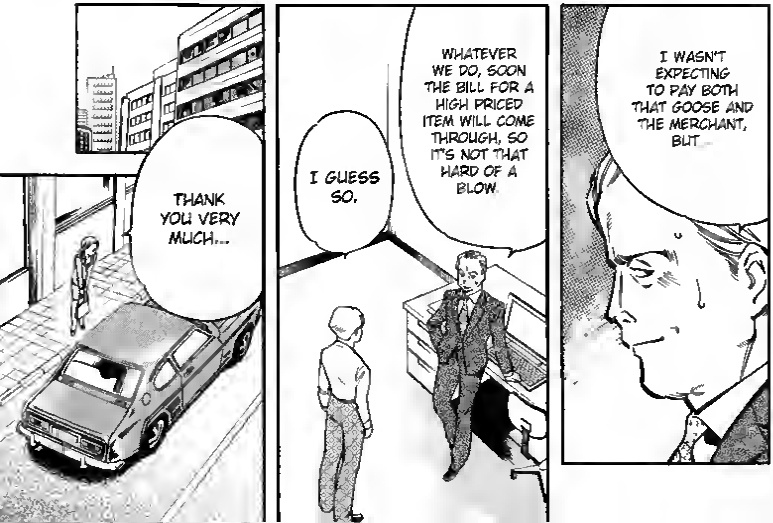
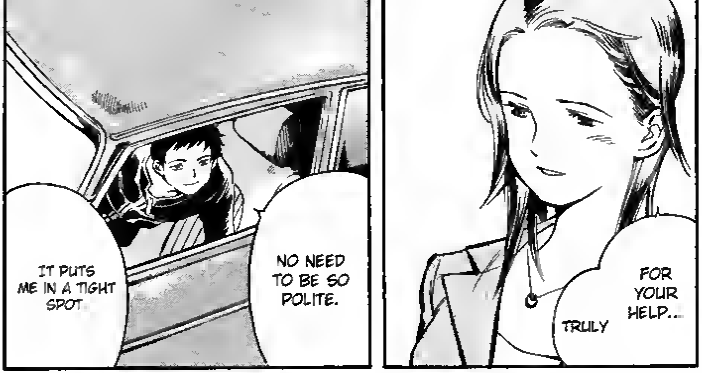
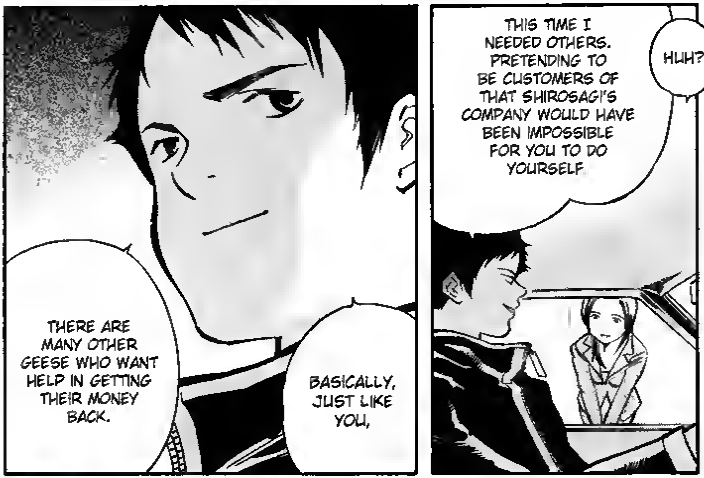
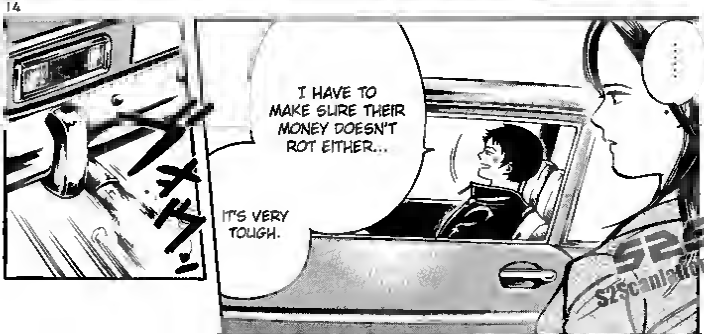

I WOULDN'T HAVE THOUGHT A GOOSE WOULD PREPARE SUCH A DOCUMENT
.....
JEEZ...


NO. A LAWYER WOULD HAVE GONE RIGHT TO COURT.
THE LAWYER ?
NO DOUBT ABOUT IT...
SOMEONE WAS PUTTING ON AIRS.


THANK YOU VERY MUCH...
I GUESS SO.
WHATEVER WE DO, SOON THE BILL FOR A HIGH PRICED ITEM WILL COME THROUGH, SO IT'S NOT THAT HARD OF A BLOW.
I WASN'T EXPECTING TO PAY BOTH THAT GOOSE AND THE MERCHANT, BUT...




THERE ARE MANY OTHER GEESE WHO WANT HELP IN GETTING THEIR MONEY BACK.
BASICALLY, JUST LIKE YOU,
THIS TIME I NEEDED OTHERS. PRETENDING TO BE CUSTOMERS OF THAT SHIROSAGI'S COMPANY WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU TO DO YOURSELF.
HUH?



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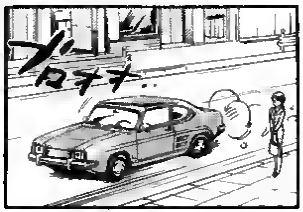
ブロロロ…

MY INPUT WAS ALMOST NOTHING.
BUT, IF YOU TRY TO THINK OF THE BALANCE,
SNACK
桂

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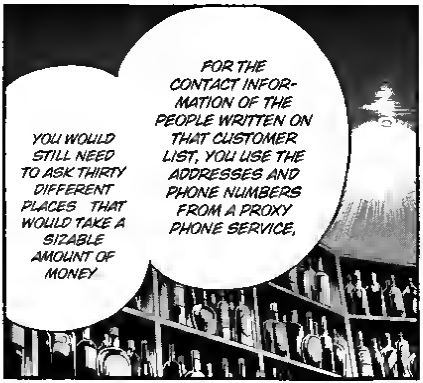
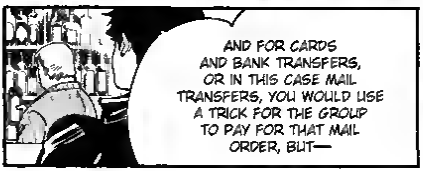
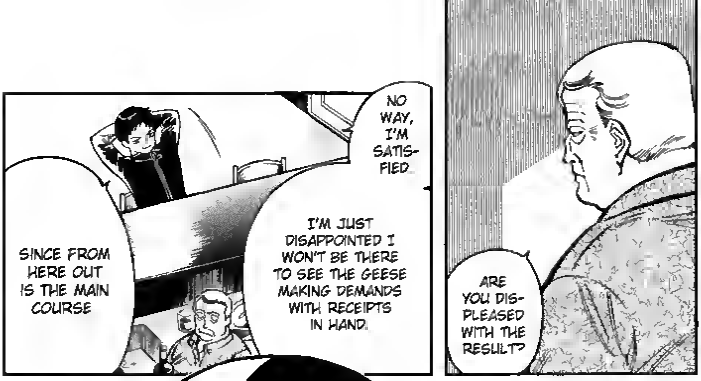

YOU WOULD STILL NEED TO ASK THIRTY DIFFERENT PLACES THAT WOULD TAKE A SIZABLE AMOUNT OF MONEY
FOR THE CONTACT INFORMATION OF THE PEOPLE WRITTEN ON THAT CUSTOMER LIST, YOU USE THE ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS FROM A PROXY PHONE SERVICE,

NO MATTER HOW CHEAP IT IS, IT BECOMES REASONABLE TO ACCOUNT FOR ITS WORTH,
FIRST, TO LULL THEM INTO SECURITY, I GET ADVANCE PAYMENT ON THE COST OF AN ITEM …


AND FOR CARDS AND BANK TRANSFERS, OR IN THIS CASE MAIL TRANSFERS, YOU WOULD USE A TRICK FOR THE GROUP TO PAY FOR THAT MAIL ORDER, BUT—


ARE YOU DISPLEASED WITH THE RESULT?
NO WAY, I'M SATISFIED.
I'M JUST DISAPPOINTED I WON'T BE THERE TO SEE THE GEESE MAKING DEMANDS WITH RECEIPTS IN HAND.
SINCE FROM HERE OUT IS THE MAIN COURSE

I HAVE GUESTS COMING
GO HOME ALREADY
I THINK I'LL CLOSE UP FOR THE NIGHT.
WILL BE EVEN MORE SATISFYING.
WELL, THE NUISANCE I EXPLOIT TO CRUSH YOU,

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IT'S NOT JUST YOU THOUGH.
YOU REALLY ARE DOING THINGS THAT CONTRADICT THEMSELVES.
YOUR PRIMARY BUSINESS, HUH...
HA!
WOULD YOU LIKE HELP FINDING THAT PATH?
IF THERE WERE ANOTHER PATH, WHICH ONE WOULD I CHOOSE...
I'VE BEEN THINKING, RECENTLY ...
17
THERE ISN'T ANYONE WHO CAN WALK MY PATH WITH ME.
BESIDES,
I'LL SEEK THAT PATH ON MY OWN.

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